

129016

JPRS-SEA-84-046

27 March 1984

Southeast Asia Report

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A

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Distribution Unlimited

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 2

19980728 150

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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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NU CONGRESS DEVELOPMENTS

NU Congress Planned for 28 April-4 May 1984

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 21 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] Jakarta--It has been decided that the 27th National Congress of the NU [Muslim Scholars Party] will be held in Jakarta from 28 April to 4 May 1984.

This was stated by Amin Iskandar, the chairman of a team appointed by the National Congress Preparatory Committee, to journalists on Wednesday [21 December] in Jakarta. He said that on Tuesday evening [20 December] a meeting of the full committee had been held at the central office of the Executive Committee of the NU, chaired by Chalid Mawardi, who is also chairman of the team considering the program of the organization for the next 5 years.

Meanwhile, Imam Chourmain was appointed chairman of the team considering changes in the organization's by-laws. A working paper has been prepared on this matter, and it is planned to present it to the NU Executive Committee Thursday evening [22 December].

According to Amin Iskandar, about 1,500 persons will attend the congress, including the full membership of the Advisory Council [Syuriah] and the Executive Council [Tanfidziah], as well as NU ulama who indeed have the right to attend, without exception.

Amin Iskandar said that in terms of those attending, there were clearly differences between the practices followed at the National Conference and those to be followed at the National Congress. At the National Conference ulama from outside the NU were also invited, as this conference of kyai [religious leaders] was not the proper place to discuss NU internal organizational questions.

He said that in addition to changes in the NU by-laws, concerning which a working paper has already been prepared by the appropriate team, another working paper concerning the NU Declaration of 1926, which will emphasize the basis and founding principles of the organization, has been completed.

The team considering this working paper has reviewed consultative practices followed by the NU since 1926. The team which has discussed the organization's program has also discussed NU participation in the national development effort.

That means increasing cooperation with the government. Of course, this team will also discuss the question of harmonious relations between members of the NU itself, Amin Iskandar said.

Answering a question on the position of Idham Chalid, once chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU who is regarded by some people as no longer general chairman of the organization, Amin Iskandar raised his eyebrows and said that he was convinced that Idham Chalid would be re-elected as general chairman, although there will be several candidates for this position at the forthcoming National Congress. At the time of the election of the general chairman, the atmosphere at the congress will be rather tense and noisy. However, by returning to the NU Declaration of 1926 this situation can be resolved by means of discussions between the parties concerned.

In that way those candidates who are not elected will not feel defeated, while the general chairman who is elected will not feel as if he has won, Amin Iskandar said. And all decisions made at the National Congress will be approved without any further bitterness.

Rift in NU Analyzed

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 24 Dec 83 pp 16, 17

[Text] Why have disputes and factional quarrels affected the NU for about the past 2 years? There are those who think that the source of the disputes is the resignation of Idham Chalid as general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU, which was later withdrawn. There are also those who think that the source of the factional quarrels is the election of Ali Ma'shum as general chairman, which is considered by these people as a violation of the NU by-laws because it set aside Anwar Musaddad, who was deputy general chairman.

Still another view states that a conflict has arisen between the politicians and the non-politicians in the NU. Those holding this opinion feel that the NU became too deeply involved in politics, thereby involving certain private or group interests. Another consequence of this was that missionary, educational, and social and economic activities were ignored. This led to the emergence of a solution which became something of a slogan: return to the NU Declaration of 1926. Returning to the Declaration of 1926 also means acceptance of the principle that considers the ulama in the Advisory Council as the highest source of power in the NU, because Nahdatul Ulama literally means "The Awakening of the Ulama."

Abdurrahman Wahid, the speaker [khatib] of the Advisory Council, is opposed to this last view. He says: "What happened was not politicians against non-politicians but rather a conflict between political groups which stood for certain private interests and those which sought to revive the NU." These vested interests were closely connected with rich businessmen who financed the NU group considered to be made up of politicians.

Another view is that of Chalid Mawardi, deputy secretary general of the NU Executive Committee. He considers that it is a serious error to represent the present conflict within the NU as a result of differences between the politicians and the ulama. He says: "The conflicts are really between groups of politicians." In

his view, the ulama have just been used by disappointed NU politicians because they are annoyed at their lack of success in obtaining seats in Parliament. Examples of such figures are Saifuddin Zuhri, Jusuf Hasjim, and Imron Rosyadi. The real conflict is not that between Idham Chalid and Ali Ma'shum. He said: "The real conflict is between their subordinates."

Chalid Mawardi admitted that there are many businessmen who finance the NU. He stated: "That is only proper because those people were also successful in handling NU business activity. Therefore, it is proper for them to provide help." Pointing to himself as an example, Chalid Mawardi said he was aware that he had private reasons for supporting his political position. He added: "That is proper, provided it is done in the right way."

A number of political observers apparently regard the conflict within the NU from another point of view. Machrus Irsyam, an instructor in political science at the University of Indonesia, considers that the conflict within the NU is dragging on because of the inability of General Chairman Ali Ma'shum to control Idham Chalid after destroying the latter's legitimacy as general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU. He said: "It is clear that Ali Ma'shum cannot hold power or be the single, all powerful force in the NU, as the late Bisri Syansuri was." Ali Ma'shum later even sought the support of other leaders among the ulama who have been questioning the credibility of the leadership of Idham Chalid.

Similar to the above view is the opinion of Dr Zamakhsyari Dhofier, a member of the Research and Development Section of the Department of Religion, whose doctoral dissertation at Australian National University in 1960 was concerned with the traditions of the pesantren [Muslim religious schools]. Dr Dhofier said last week: "General Chairman Ali Ma'shum has less authority than Idham Chalid. That is what is causing the most serious splits within the NU." According to him, if Kyai As'ad had become general chairman, Idham Chalid could not have withdrawn his resignation because Idham Chalid has great respect for Kyai As'ad.

On the other hand, Dhofier considers that Idham's power is steadily diminishing. He said: "Idham and his group are no longer working for the NU but for their own interests, with the result that his power is declining. More importantly, in the eyes of the government, 'As of now Idham Chalid is no longer considered beneficial for the country.'"

Mahrus Irsyam considers that the desire to return to the NU program of 1926 is very appropriate because the future leadership of the NU will emerge from below. He said: "In that way political mobility will follow a process of selection from below. For example, political decisions will reflect the aspirations of the more humble elements among the people." He thinks it is important to recall that under present Indonesian political conditions there are many political decisions which are not made by the masses. He stated: "Furthermore, the NU is not a mass organization."

In Dhofier's view, the concept of a return to the 1926 NU Declaration is a timely action. He considers that this slogan can mean that if the NU wants to be successful once again, NU leaders who are fighting in defense of their private interests need to be pushed aside. Returning to the 1926 Declaration does not

mean that the NU will no longer engage in practical politics but rather will specifically show a progressive attitude toward development.

Doctor Alfian, 43 years old and a director of the National Cultural Research Institute of LIPI [Indonesian Science Council], is convinced that the conflict within the NU will be resolved in the future as has already happened in the past. He said last week: "Healing these wounds will very much depend on the success of the NU leaders in finding the right answer: developing a consensus and a new formulation for society."

According to Alfian, there are three possible formulations which the NU might adopt. First, opening up some distance between the NU organization and practical political maneuvering. This would not mean that the NU leaders would not engage in practical politics. They would continue to express the political aspirations of the NU. They could channel their political efforts through the PPP [Development Unity Party] or would be free to enter any other party.

Secondly, the NU could free itself from engaging in practical political activity, although its members might take part in political activity on their own. Alfian said: "This would make it possible for the NU to develop into a social, educational, and religious organization in the true sense of the word. In the eyes of the people the NU would emerge as a moral force. Under certain conditions a moral force can engage in practical politics."

The third formulation involves the NU returning to its 1926 program. If this choice is made, further thought is needed, because existing realities are different from what they were in 1926. The different attitudes and outlooks of NU members may lead to actions which are not relevant to present-day society. In addition, this choice will also require leaders who really know the traditions of 1926.

If they are deceived by what was written down dozens of years ago and they do not look for new areas of activity, the NU will find it difficult to continue and difficult to make itself relevant to present social conditions. Alfian said: "This formulation may lead to frustration." The establishment of the NU in 1926 was in reaction to the Muhammadiyah [a modernist, reformist Muslim movement] and PERSIS [Islamic Union]. Alfian asked: "Do we now need reformist thinking in such a reactionary form?" The NU, he said, should seek a new outlook, for example, taking the view that Indonesia can become a center for Islamic studies, in view of the great potential for such a center.

Alfian considers that at the present time there are still many NU members who have too great an orientation toward power, which damages the efforts of the organization itself. For that reason, to bring out a new model political structure we need to include the thinking of the younger generation, and there must be a further transfer of power to the next generation. He said: "The old NU leaders find it difficult to abandon old-fashioned ways of thinking which tend to emphasize the use of power." By transferring power to the next generation and with the emergence of people who support a new political formulation, Alfian is convinced that the NU will be able to make itself more relevant to present social developments.

Which formulation will the NU adopt? Returning to the 1926 Declaration seems to have been accepted by the two contending factions in the NU.

Chalid Mawardi, who has now been appointed spokesman for the Idham Chalid group, agrees with this concept. He said: "However, I don't want the 1926 Declaration to become a slogan for internal questioning. It is the spirit of the 1926 Declaration which must be brought back to life: self-sacrifice in our efforts, friendship, toleration, checks and balances, and love, help, and harmony between our members." What is still not yet clear is the future formulation and implementation of this concept. His answer is apparently that we must wait for the National Congress in 1984.

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CSO: 4213/137

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR CONSIDERATION OF PRIVATIZATION OF STATE ENTERPRISES

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 14 Jan 84 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] The government intends to intensify the private sector's role in national development. Indeed, this coincides with the necessity of the government to tap more development resources from the people within the framework of enhancing productivity and efficiency. The general chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) has said that the private sector should be given a bigger role in the interest of an efficient utilization of the much-reduced national budget.

This symptom of "privatization" of state enterprises exists not in Indonesia only. Other ASEAN members, such as Malaysia and Thailand, have earlier moved in this direction in a more concrete manner. A number of state enterprises there have been transferred to the private sector, because these enterprises have continuously suffered financial losses, added the burdens of the government and even the people, as well as slowed down efficiency of their economies precisely at a time when economy absolutely needs a continuous dynamic activity. These countries even have a plan to privatize their railway, electricity and potable water enterprises.

While she need not be so radical in this matter, Indonesia should start thinking seriously about "privatization" in the sense that the government give a greater role and trust to the private sector, to the capital, manpower and skills of the community, for the safety of our national development. There is no doubt that the private sector does have the capability and the experience to undertake the tasks entrusted to them. On the other hand, we have seen alarming facts and performances indicating the inefficient management of state and regional enterprises in the form of high prices and unsatisfactory service. A good case in point is the recent admission by the Indonesian National Shipping Company [PN Pelni] that this state enterprise has always lost money since its founding.

Some basic terms and conditions must be fulfilled by the government in order to make its privatization plan a success, such as a firm political will, a sound business climate, an effective mechanism and a change of heart toward the private sector by being more positive and appreciative, as well as accepting their social status. To achieve these goals, education should play an active role.

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CSO: 4213/150

INDONESIA

FBSI CHAIRMAN ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 16 Jan 84 p 1, 11

[Text] Agus Sudono, chairman of the All-Indonesian Workers Federation [FBSI], maintained that the government is not firm enough in carrying out its regulation concerning the time limit for technology transfer from foreign experts to Indonesian personnel. This wavering attitude has often resulted in an "unsatisfactory" condition of Indonesian workers' capabilities.

For instance, Agus Sudono told ANTARA last Saturday [14 January] in Singapore that foreign experts were given a period of 3 to 5 years to transfer their expertise, and thereafter they must get out of the country.

"In Indonesia, many foreign experts have been working for 15 years, doing work that can be performed by their Indonesian counterparts, for instance, in aviation, banks and factories," Sudono said.

The FBSI also proposed to the government to draw up regulations governing salary comparisons between foreign experts and Indonesian workers.

He cited the case of an Indonesian textile engineer who graduated from a Japanese university. "He works in Indonesia, receiving a salary 10 times lower than that of a Japanese engineer who graduated from the same university," he said.

Agus Sudono believed that such glaring salary imbalance is bound to cause disappointment and restlessness [among Indonesian workers].

According to a survey, work efficiency of foreign experts is admittedly higher than Indonesian workers. Nevertheless, the salary ratio between them shows that Indonesian personnel are paid much lower.

He said that compared with their Indonesian counterparts, Japanese workers are four times more efficient, "but Japanese workers are paid 16 times higher," Agus Sudono said. Belgian workers are twice as efficient as Indonesian workers, but they are paid 10 times higher. Japanese and Belgian workers should receive a salary 4 and 2 times higher than Indonesian workers, respectively.

He said that Indonesian workers should be trained in a military style to temper their mentality, so they don't grumble or cry in a facile manner. For instance, Indonesian workers assigned to Saudi Arabia lack perseverance; as soon as they have made a pilgrimage to Mecca, they are eager to "return home."

Regarding the work quality of Indonesians compared with South Korean and Philippine workers, we lose on four counts: preparation time for job, mastery of language, skill and mental preparedness. He said that Indonesian experts are seldom willing to be assigned to a forest or the high seas and that these field jobs are predominantly held by foreigners.

Agus Sudomo said that South Korea already paid attention to Middle East countries as early as 10 years ago, while Indonesia only 2 years ago.

He said that the FBSI is organizing a skill training center in Pondok Cabe with Belgian help. It is hoped that this center will be in operation in early 1985.

The FBSI chairman suggested that the government increase its budget for vocational training schools to 60 percent and limit its budget for public schools to 40 percent, instead of the other way around.

He explained that as a developing country, Indonesia needs middle industrialists. He noted that high school graduates are not prepared to hold an employment.

With regard to government tax imposed on foreign experts, Sudono suggested that the amount be increased from \$400 to \$1,000.

He predicted that the problem of manpower and labor in the coming 10 years will become wider in scope and magnitude, so its solution should be more fundamental, conceptional, integral, cross-sectional and coordinated.

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CSO: 4213/150

INDONESIA

LIPI RESEARCHER CALLS ANTI-CHINESE ATTITUDE LEGACY OF COLONIALISM

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 14 Jan 84 p 12

[Text] Dr Lie Tek Tjeng, a researcher in the Indonesian Council of the Sciences [LIPI], held that the anti-Chinese feelings prevailing in the Indonesian community represents a cancerous legacy of colonialism and a most serious condition to be resolved by the younger generation in the interest of Indonesia's prosperity.

He was speaking before 300 participants among exponents of the 1966 Generation, in a gathering held in Medan last Friday (13 January) to commemorate the birth of the generation and the emergence of the Tritura [Three Demands the People] 18 years ago. "Before the consolidation of the Dutch colonial rule over Indonesia, an anti-Chinese attitude did not exist," he said.

However, the notorious Dutch colonial policy of "divide and rule" eventually brought about controversies among Indonesia's diverse population comprising natives and alien orientals Chinese, Arabs and Indians.

In his view, the anti-Chinese sentiment gradually developed because ethnic Chinese groups in this country, who found themselves in the middle social stratum, invariably strove to identify with the colonial elite, which resulted in feelings of distrust on the part of the pribumi [indigenous] group.

Dr Lie maintained that this could happen because the divide-and-rule policy of the colonial government, which divided the indigenous majority and the ethnic Chinese could be safely carried out by a very small number of colonial officials.

This is a bitter course of history which, if let alone, will remain an antagonism which often manifests itself in racial disturbances which, in turn, disturb the tranquility and development of the country, he added.

In his lecture, the LIPI expert also narrated the various stages of the Indonesian struggle to win independence since the colonial days when the government did its best to keep the animosity between the indigenous population and the nonindigenous inhabitants alive.

Likewise, the organization's main objective in the economic field was said to counterbalance the economic progress of ethnic Chinese. The same condition still pertained when the colonial government collaborated with the ethnic Chinese in security matters by forming the Pao An Tui, an ethnic Chinese "peace keeping corps" which strengthened the image of the Chinese as "Dutch colonial henchmen" in the minds of Indonesian nationalists.

Concluding his speech, entitled "Implementation on National Unity," Dr Lie said that the only cure for the cancer passed on by colonialism is for the entire Indonesian population, both indigenous and otherwise, and particularly the younger generation, to nurture an attitude of idealism and patriotism and to strive for the interests of the country and people always.

9300

CSO: 4213/150

MANPOWER MINISTER CALLS FOR PAY RAISE FOR PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 14 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Admiral Sudomo, minister of manpower, called on entrepreneurs to raise the salaries of their employees. This increase is not meant to be a compulsion, but to be geared to the capability of the enterprises concerned; nor should it be the same percentage as the increase of oil fuel prices or government workers' salaries.

He made these remarks Friday evening while witnessing the signing ceremony of a collective labor agreement between PT Broken Hill Proprietary Indonesia and the Oil Gas and General Mining Workers Union [SBMGPU], a subsidiary of the All-Indonesian Workers Federation [FBSI], in Jakarta. This agreement was the second one signed by the company which deals in tin mining at Kelapa Kampit, Belitung County, Bangka Island.

The minister said that the government is fully aware of the consequence of the oil fuel price increase to business activities, including salary adjustment of private sector workers. He added that the government considering the impacts of its policies, particularly on private workers. So private workers should remain calm and carry on as usual.

Minister Sudomo added that he will discuss the problem of pay raise for private sector workers in a trilateral meeting in Jakarta next Monday [16 January].

The three parties are the Ministry of Manpower, represented by the minister and his staff; FBSI and the Field Workers Union [SBLP] represented by their leaders; and the entrepreneurs represented by the Entrepreneurs Consultative Conference for Social Affairs in Indonesia of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry [KADIN].

The minister said there are three categories of entrepreneurs in Indonesia: strong, medium and small (mostly owned by natives). If private sector workers demand the same 15 percent pay raise as has been granted government workers, many small enterprises will definitely fold up.

However, he said that if some large or medium enterprises can afford to increase their workers' salaries by 15 percent or more, they should do it. "If they can do it, well, don't talk too much, but do it," he urged.

He appealed to leaders of SBLP and FBSI to refrain from issuing statements which could confuse their own union members. "Such statements will not solve the problem," Minister Sudomo said.

RESTRUCTURING OF AIR FORCE CITED

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 16 Jan 84 p 6

[Text] "Our Air Force for the future is small but highly skilled supported by capable, skillful, versatile and responsible personnel.

"In preparation for such personnel who can also handle the latest advanced air weaponry systems, our Air Force is at present restructuring and perfecting its educational curriculum for its rank and file, in line with its future requirements."

This was disclosed by Air Vice Marshal Sukardi, Air Force chief of staff, in a meeting with Air Force officers who are doing nonmilitary duty as members of Parliament or the Jakarta Municipal Assembly, held last Friday evening, 13 January.

The vice marshal said in streamlining and perfecting its personnel, the Air Force is carrying out a "Ganesya" operation, that is, preparation for an educational system for technical and electronical noncommissioned officers to become crew members of advanced aircraft in the future.

Speaking on the Air Division of the Republic of Indonesia Armed Forces Academy, the Air Force chief of staff hopes that this institute will produce officers with specialized capabilities in manning and handling air weapons system in the fields of electronics, aeronautics and administration.

It is also hoped that graduates of the Air Division of this academy will have reached a level equivalent to a master's degree in their own field, so they can develop their specialties in conformity with technological advancement in aviation, also with their task and responsibility.

The meeting was held for the purpose of giving a briefing to the above-mentioned Air Force officers about the development in the Air Force, and its effort in restructuring the organization, as a follow-up to Law No 20 and Presidential Decisions 45 and 60.

9300

CSO: 4213/150

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND DEFENSE MINISTER DEPARTS--New Zealand Defense Minister David Thomson has reiterated his country's support to Indonesia and the other ASEAN countries in seeking a solution to the Kampuchean issue, particularly regarding the presence of the Vietnamese forces in that country. He stated that at a new conference yesterday at the Ngurah Rai International Airport in Denpasar, Bali, before concluding his 5-day visit to Indonesia. Minister David Thomson was seen off by Defense and Security Minister Poniman., Armed Forces Commander General Beni Murdani, and other ranking officers of the defense and security department. On his impression of his 5-day visit, the New Zealand defense minister said there was real development in Indonesia. He was greatly impressed by the Nurtanio Aircraft Co and the Pal Shipbuilding Co in Surabaya. [Text] [BK100239 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 9 Mar 84]

GOVERNMENT AGAINST 'CHILDREN OF GOD'--In his Letter of Decision No TAP 058/GA/3/1984, Attorney General Ismail Saleh has prohibited the circulation of all forms and kinds of printed matters and activities aimed at propagating and popularizing the teaching of the faith of the "Children of God" throughout Indonesia. Those who possess, keep, circulate, sell, or print the printed matter are requested to hand them over to the district prosecution office, the local high prosecution office, and other security agencies. He also ordered the prosecution office, police, or other state apparatuses which have the authority to preserve public order to confiscate the printed matter and halt the activities. The attorney general's decision was conveyed during a meeting with high-ranking officials of the Defense and Security Department, the Justice Department, the State Intelligence Coordination Agency [BAKIN], the Information Department, the Religious Affairs Department, and the police in Jakarta this morning. [Text] [BK120859 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 12 Mar 84]

CSO: 4213/180

RED CROSS CHIEF MY SAMEDY INTERVIEWED ON TRIP TO FRANCE

Phnom Penh KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 10 Nov 83 p 6

[Interview with Comrade My Samedy, a senior professor of the Medical College, Department of Medicine and Dentistry, and general secretary of the Kampuchean Red Cross and Chairman of the Khmer Olympic Committee, about his recent trip to France; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] After you left the country on 15 August 1983 for the mission in France with your wife, I heard rumors saying that you might not return to our country. What do you have to say about those rumors?

[Answer] First, let me thank you for representing KAMPUCHEA and taking this occasion to interview me. The rumor that I won't be returning to our country is always heard whenever I have a mission to France. In fact, from the source of those rumors, people always dream of France as heaven, as a place giving them happiness, or they don't understand the ideal of my love for the people, love for my country and the honor and trust bestowed upon me by the Party and State as an intellectual. The fact is this time, I brought my wife for medical treatment and for meeting our children who have been separated from us for 10 years. My wife and I who knew France and used to live in that country understand very well about the hardship of living there, and I don't want to hear anybody accuse us of fleeing our country. In France, some people believed me and some others said that I wouldn't be returning to our country because my family was together again. Some urged me and my wife to stay on in France, but at the end our comrades saw us board an airplane back to Kampuchea.

[Question] What do you think the tasks of intellectuals are in Kampuchean society?

[Answer] For me, I have enough knowledge to truly serve the Kampuchean revolution in a spirit of patriotism and love of the people. I understand that an intellectual's ideology is in serving the people's cause, serving the people's interest and being honest and faithful to the policy of our Party and State. Our life is going to end one day, and if we die for the cause of the people and for the cause of the country, we won't have any regrets. In short, an intellectual must have a country which he should never abandon, and should have an ideology of serving the people and the country with his own knowledge.

[Question] Comrade, would you please tell us about your successes and activities in France?

[Answer] I cannot call myself successful in my activities in France. I can only tell you that I did several things. As I am a senior professor of electronics, the Party and State permitted me to participate in the Fifth Science Conference of European countries which was held in Bordeaux since the Science Association of France made me an honorary member in 1982. The success has been two fold:

First, in the technical sphere, I learned about modern technology for teaching our students. In this European conference, some 2,600 doctors participated.

Secondly, in the political sphere, several foreigners met me and my wife during parties. They saw our identification cards which read "People's Republic of Kampuchea." They were surprised about this and asked me: "How does your government dare to let you come to the meeting with your wife?" My answer was that the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party follows a true and correct policy and dares to give responsibilities to a true patriot. Others asked about the situation inside Kampuchea and about the presence of Vietnamese army volunteers.

I took that opportunity to explain and stressed the real situation and the prosperity of the population during the past 5 years. Moreover, I had contacted various centers, including professors to ask for aid such as books and medical equipment for our medical college. In my capacity as the Kampuchean Red Cross's general secretary, I had talks with the central committee of the French Red Cross asking them to continue aid for fighting tuberculosis.

In my capacity as chairman of the Khmer National Olympic Committee, I met with the chairman of the French National Olympic Committee asking them to support us in the plenary session which decided on our membership in the International Olympic Committee and proposing an exchange of sports between the two countries. The French chairman of the National Olympic Committee agreed to support us and decided to send a French volleyball team to have a friendly match in Phnom Penh at a certain date with arrangements agreed on by both sides.

In addition, I talked a number of times with Khmer residents of all walks of life to tell them about the real situation and the prosperity of the Kampuchean population. In France, I met various organizations asking them to provide aid to Kampuchea and making them understand that the Kampuchean people are the masters of their own country uniting with the state authority in all the sectors for national construction and defense.

7429

CSO: 4212/30

CONDITIONS AT DK BASE DESCRIBED

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 5-11 Feb 84 pp 9, 10

[Text] In the early morning of 26 January at 5 am in front of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs two busloads of reporters and officers from the ministry headed towards Aranyaprathet. More than half of them were western reporters, each of them were carrying a lot of photographic equipment. The bus had stopped to pick up other groups of reporters who had been waiting on the outskirts of Aranyaprathet because this group had been using their own cars which limited the number who could travel. Therefore they had to wait for the bus. Due to the lack of experience of the drivers, by the time they reached their destination it was almost 11 am. Along the way there were several Thai Army bunker-checkpoints; the last with the words "BLACK TIGER," this unit is responsible for the Aranyaprathet border next to the Khmer Rouge base.

When we arrived at the Thai-Kampuchean border, it was rather difficult to pinpoint what was Thailand and what was Kampuchea. When the bus pulled into a small parking lot several of us who had never been here before were quite amazed because the base that we saw was much larger than we had expected.

Yellow striped flags on a red background could be clearly seen waving on the other side of the canal. A long line of reporters had progressed through the entrance which is a bridge with two poles on each side with Khmer Rouge soldiers standing on each side of the poles with guns. Hundreds of reporters were taking pictures. Along the way approximately 300 meters from the entrance to their accommodations, there were several Khmer Rouge soldiers standing around mixed in with the villagers nearby, as if they were welcoming distinguished visitors, rather than just out of curiosity. The Khmer Rouge soldiers were dressed in new uniforms of dark green shirts with rolled sleeves, long trousers of the same color, and a rifle in hand, which looked new as if just removed from the case. Some of them were smoking and seemed so relaxed.

Along the way there were several Khmer Rouge civilian houses built one right after the other. These did not seem like they would provide much comfort to the residents. Most are not too high off the ground and the frame and the roofs were made of dry straw or hay. The houses were half the size of Thai shophouses. There was a small porch to sit on and relax beside the

house, there were home vegetable gardens that were not much different from other tropical gardens.

The villagers gathered to stare at the visitors and the visitors stared back. Everybody was dressed in brand new clothes. The one similarity was all the sandals were made of auto tires. We later found out that they had been bought in Aranyaprathet, quite expensive at 35 baht a pair, but they all wore these from villager to soldier to official.

There were approximately 10 guest houses built in an area that was once a jungle; after the whole area had been cleared the evidence still remained of trees that once reached to the sky. Five Khmer Rouge officials hosted the media people, and they had to work especially hard. Thai and foreign reporters scattered all over the place out of curiosity. At one guest house there was a high level Kampuchean official known as Mr Khieu Samphan, vice president and Mr Ieng Sary the foreign minister, and his wife who serves in the government as well. Mr Thiounn Thioeun, the minister of health, was also included. They were all there to appear before the media before joining the presentation of the ambassadorial credentials from participating countries.

SU ANAKHOT obtained information from a Khmer Rouge official that the village was named "Phum Thmei" meaning "new village." It shouldn't be necessary to go into the reasons for the name. This village is the center of a base which consists of eight other villages with a high population estimate of 20,000. "Generally we try to say that this is our capital, but in fact this is only a village as you can see," Khim Sam, one of the officials, frankly admitted.

All of the reporters were roaming around the guest houses when the time came for the presentation of ambassadorial credentials by Yugoslav and Egyptian ambassadors to Thailand and Kampuchea. Each of the ambassadors delivered his credential to prince Norodom Sihanouk one at a time, and the prince, who is still very healthy and unchanged, delivered a long and loud speech in English without the use of a microphone, with a Cambodian accent mixed with French. The ceremony was completed within an hour.

Finally, there was an open interview with hundreds of reporters surrounding the small elevated guest house. Due to the fact that the facility was unable to accommodate all of the reporters, everyone tried their best to be as close as possible to the Kampuchean tripartite [coalition] leader. Most of the reporters who questioned the prince were westerners. The Thai reporters either could not come up with questions fast enough or they just did not want to show off their English language ability.

During the interview, a western reporter asked why a government leader such as Mr Son Sann did not participate in this ceremony. The prince replied "that is Mr Son Sann's business, if he did not want to come, he cannot be forced, but I can only say that presently we are all well organized and not attacking each other, it is as if we are all friends joining in the same combat." He added that this is not a lie.

During the interview SU ANAKHOT noticed two lovely ladies. Assuming they were Kampucheans I greeted them in broken English. One of them was barely able to speak English, but the other could only say her name "Sa" which she insisted was her real name. The other's name was "Tiang" (Both of them were rather cute compared to the rest of the Kampuchean girls I had seen that day). They had studied Chinese from China and were able to speak some English because some Kampucheans who lived in America had come back and taught her English for 2 weeks.

Sa, 26 years old, said that her family was left behind in Phnom Penh when she escaped. It has been 3 years; she still does not know whether her parents and brothers and sisters are alive or not. In any event she hopes that they are and that one day they will meet again. Kampuchea must certainly be victorious; she believes that will be the case. "It is a war for justice" her friend agreed, both of them have to be separated from their families who were left behind under Heng Samrin's government and have been unable to communicate with one another at all.

They were asked if they missed the happy time they should be having at this age, instead of having to fight so hard to rescue their nation. They said it is necessary to sacrifice one's personal comfort in order to achieve other goals.

"I think the Thai are very warm, understanding, and helpful to us." I do not know if she is sweet talking me or not, but I hope one day they are able to go back home, not to this battlefield, and that she will invite us to visit her as she suggested before we parted that day.

We had quite a fancy lunch such as sandwiches, fried rice, fried chicken, soda, and beer in the uncarpeted wooden house before we made our trip back.

I believe this will make us get to know the Kampuchean people a little better.

12458
CSO: 4207/82

BRIEFS

PREY VENG HOSPITAL--The Neak Loeung hospital is a strategic hospital for [disease] prevention and treatment of people east of the Mekong River along Route 1. The ferryboat across the river is too slow and cannot transport seriously ill patients to Phnom Penh quickly enough. This hospital was built in 1962, but later it was completely destroyed by the American bombs during the Lon Nol regime. It was rebuilt in 1973. It was destroyed once again in the holocaust of Democratic Kampuchea. After liberation, under the direction of the Prey Veng revolutionary authorities the Neak Loeung hospital was rebuilt once more. With the permission of the Council of Ministers and with the cooperation of the humanitarian organization the Mennonite Central Committee of the United States and Canada two treatment buildings were built and completed with 30 beds and a kitchen. The hospital is called the Prey Veng Hospital No 2. It consists of the following departments: emergency, minor surgery, obstetrics, pharmacy, maternity and in-patients. It includes modern medical equipment which were supplied by the Mennonite Central Committee. The hospital was officially opened on 29 October 1983 by Comrade Chan Ven, General Secretary of the State Council; Venerable Tep Vong, vice-chairman of the National Assembly and vice-chairman of the KNUFCD; Comrade Hong Them, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Health; Comrade Thong Boreth, Party Secretary of Prey Veng and Comrade Chiam Yiap, Chairman of the [Administrative] Committee of Prey Veng. Mr and Mrs (Kupman), Mennonite Central Committee representatives, were also present at the ceremony. [Text] [Phnom Penh KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 10 Nov 83 p 6] 7429

CSO: 4212/30

SOUBAN SEEKS INDIAN ROLE ON PEACE MOVE

BK071155 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 7 Mar 84 p 8

[HERALD News Service]

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Mar--Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Laos, Mr Souban Salitthilat, today sought India's good offices for the withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Southeast Asia, vacation of external intervention and the establishment of a zone of peace, friendship and cooperation in the region.

He said that India, being the chairperson of the non-aligned movement, could get the resolution adopted by the summit in New Delhi in March last year implemented by all concerned.

Mr Salitthilat, who is in the capital to attend a seminar on "India-Indochina, Perspectives of Cooperation," told newsmen that the situation in Southeast Asia was tense and dangerous due to the fact that the "Chinese expansionists" sought by all means to drive the countries of Asia against those of Indochina by creating a "fictitious situation" at the Thai-Kampuchean border.

He pointed that if the present situation continued, neither a global nor a partial solution being reached, the disagreements between the two groups of countries would be aggravated and possibly would lead to an explosive uncontrollable situation in which China could take advantage to provoke a large-scale war in Southeast Asia.

The Laos minister also sought India's help for the various development programmes which his country had undertaken. "We need India's assistance, expertise and training of Laos personnel which cover various development programmes relating to agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry, rehabilitation and strengthening of agro-industries and the irrigation system," he added.

He said that his country was in dire need of water pumps for irrigation purposes and he was happy to announce that India had agreed to supply such pumps shortly.

Mr Salitthilat was all praise for India and the way it was being managed despite certain troubles which, he said, were unavoidable in a democracy. We wish to expand economic, political and cultural relations with your country, he told newsmen.

In the past years, India had assisted our country in a number of projects, particularly in the agricultural fields which greatly contributed to our national reconstruction, he added.

LAOS

LEADERS' MILITARY BACKGROUNDS CITED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 21 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by S. Chantho: "Fa Ngum Unit, Comrade Sithong, And The Struggle Of The People In Vientiane Capital"]

[Excerpts] Every combatant and politician well knows the name of Fa Ngum Company whenever it is mentioned. However, in order to point out the heritage of revolutionary struggle of the last generation on the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the LPA from 20 January 1949 to 20 January 1984. I would like to recall part of the heritage of the army and the struggle of our people throughout Vientiane Capital.

Next to historic Latsavong Company, the company was officially organized in a stronghold of the heroic Siangko District, Houa Phan Province commanded by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, the present secretary general of the LPRP Central Committee. Every province had its own local military forces. In west Vientiane it was secretly called (Battalion 83) guided by Mr Meun Samvichit, Mr Thit Mouan Saochanthala, party central committee members, and other important people who approved its setting up. Working people who were oppressed all over Long Ton, Feung, Long Med, and Kasi Districts initially set up Company No 7, Fa Ngum unit officially.

In the Zone 83 command at that time, based on my memory, there were Mr Meun Somlichit, Mr Thit Mouan, and other important people along with the Vietnamese advisors Comrade Lap and many others. There were many comrades of both sexes in the office of cadre assistance, including Mrs Leut in Ban Na Thoun, Ban Vilaison, Mrs Mao, and others. In our Fa Ngum Unit there were Comrade Khamsi as the commander, Comrade Salong of the political section, and Comrade Savai of the agricultural section in Hatsaifong District. Now Thit Di is in command of platoons 1 and 2 and Thit Si commands the third platoon. In the company headquarters there were Doctor Ounkham (Captain Ounkham in the logistics office in our present Vientiane Capital), Comrade Siangkhen in Ban Phialat, and others. There were 18 command cadres in groups 1 to 9 including the commander of group 1-platoon 2 who was hero Comrade Sithong himself. The old saying that after the war we finally know the brave men, and after the work we finally know the diligent people, is true. After overcoming the obstacles in army operations day and night for almost one week, we all got to be acquainted with those lovely people, especially when they were squad

leaders on duty. When the companies gathered to have a good time they often sang and showed off, made people laugh, and created an atmosphere such that all groups in the company respected and loved them for their serious work. In speaking of their style of living, we can say that it was easy. They were satisfied if only their friends had enough to eat and enough clothes to keep warm.

9884

CSO: 4206/77

LAOS

AAA BN HISTORY: US AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN, POWS CAPTURED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 14, 16 Jan 84

[Article: "Heroic AAA BN"]

[14 Jan pp 2, 4]

[Excerpts] Based on the sacred demand of the nation and the necessary objective progress of our military forces, and based on the actual situation in 1960, the year the American imperialists and their henchmen increased the war provocation and invaded our country, land and air forces were used to attack and seize the liberation zones, especially in Xieng Khouang Province. Given this situation, the party Central Committee and also the LPLA Supreme Command decided to officially set up AAA BN (A) on 18 October 1961 in a locality in Xieng Khouang Province. It consisted of a total of 79 cadres and combatants from various organizations under the command of Comrade Chan.

As a new unit and as the first LPA air defense unit, the party committee and the battalion command were mainly concerned with improving cadres' and combatants' political training throughout the unit.

After a short training period, on 19 April 1962 the first company of the battalion stationed at (Yo outpost) Khangkhai, Kat Canton, Pek District, Xieng Khouang Province, opened its first air attacks against the U.S. and shot down a U.S. LF-101 plane with 4 shells in the first burst. It was the first U.S. plane to be shot down in our country and also in Indochina. The battalion's first victory built up the new spiritual and physical forces for the cadres and combatants within the unit even more. From the end of 1963 to early 1964 the battalion convened a congress for four months to observe their combat strengths and weaknesses, later on the work of the battalion was effectively carried on. and it continued studying politics and combat tactics and strategies in order to promote efficiency in fighting. Later, on 5 April 1964, the battalion carried out its air operations and shot U.S. air marauders along various longitude and aviation routes, especially in the direction of Ban Na The, Na Savan, Kham District according to orders from the Supreme Command to liberate the Plain of Jars, [Phan], and Kheung Districts, and to chase Kong Le's neutralist forces out of the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khouang. In carrying out this order the battalion

dispersed its operating forces. Of these, one platoon of the 12.8 mm company seized and attacked along the enemies' retreat routes from the Plain of Jars to the direction of Soui District. Another platoon of the company went to attack in the direction of Sat Ngon Mountain, and Nam Yen and Lek bridges. After the liberation of the Plain of Jars, the second company was assigned to capture, and prepared for the field to be ready to join with the infantry in fighting to protect Phou Kout Mountain. The first company, in particular, got ready to protect Khangkhai. After the fight to chase Kong Le's neutralist forces out, this time the battalion was able to shoot down five T-28 aircraft right on the spot, and it shot to destroy seven airplanes. It also used a 12.8 mm gun to destroy three of the enemies' tanks, killing 28 of the enemy. Later on the battalion continued its combat operations in Khangkai, Phan District, Xieng Khouang, Phang, Ngan, Tha Thom, Pa Dong, Tat Pia, Nam Tiam, Kham, and Nga districts, and got ready to firmly defend Phou Kout Mountain.

Later, in responding to the demands of the situation, in May 1965 the battalion received one additional 37 mm and one 12.8 mm company. At that time, Comrade Bounmi was the battalion commander, Comrades Si and Bouathai were in the battalion committee, and the personnel in the battalion increased by 200 people. Later, to complete its duty the battalion separated itself. One section went to get ready to protect Phang and Ngan districts. Another fought to protect Khangkhai and Phonsavan. Still another carried out its fighting duties over a wide range to help provide support in each direction when it was needed. The situation at that time was extremely fierce. The American imperialists and their henchmen opened a strong and insane attack on the Xieng Khouang liberated zone. The most serious one was when they began an attack on Phou Kout Mountain using eight infantry battalions along with Thai artillery and U.S. fighter aircraft. They also destroyed our transportation route from Nong Het to Khangkhai using B-52 aircraft. The fighting went on continuously and was extremely fierce. Although the battalion forces were small and scattered, and they fought independently, the battalion obtained a glorious victory. In one of these in the direction of Phou Mountain they fought for 7 days, shot down 19 airplanes right on the spot, and seriously damaged 47 others. In Tat Pia they shot down one B-57 [as published] right on the spot and damaged two airplanes.

[16 Jan 84] 2]

[Excerpts] In order to complete its duty from this victory to the new ones, after completing the Koukiat campaign, in 1970-72 the regional command decided to provide a number of 12.8 mm guns and infantry weapons to the battalion for its operations against air and land marauders in the San Cho area, The District. As for the fourth company, it was to hold San Cho and be on the alert. A few months passed by, and because of the evil nature of the enemies who were insanely willing to die, they began a combat campaign called Pasanmit attacking San Cho, Phou Pa Kha, Phiang Vong, and Phou Chomsi mountains, and Khao District, hoping to shamelessly seize Ban Ban, Kham District. As a result of this situation, by reinforcing the heritage of the unit and by having confidence in the leadership of the party, all in the battalion became more brave, fought persistently, and shot down one U.S. L-19 right

on the spot. They used infantry to clandestinely kill 6 enemies, and injure 16 at Hill 1300. They carried out a secret attack on Pha Lai in the north of Kham District in the daytime and killed 9 enemies, seized 7 guns, and provided a strong defense of the stronghold in Kham District. Later, the battalion worked in cooperation with the infantry to fight at each location in Soui District on Routes 7 and 13 in the Salaphoukoun, Kasi, and Kuie Kacham areas. The fighting was extremely confused and fierce. Phou Mok, Lang Chang, Phou Koun Yai, Bangalo, Nam Phou, and Nam Bek along Route 13 to Phonsi are still gloriously remembered as outstanding scenes of heroism of the [cadres] and combatants, i.e., [illegible] and killed 7 enemies, including one captain. The second company shot down one L-19 aircraft.

Thus, when we recall the combat history of AAA BN(A) from 1969 to 1983, the battalion carried out 1055 small and big air operations, shot down 285 U.S. airplanes of various types including the first, 100th, 200th, 300th, 400th, 600th, and 800th U.S. aircraft that were shot down in Laos. It damaged 525 airplanes, fought 249 times in big and small land combat, killed enemies, and caused 219 of them to surrender; 131 enemies were killed, 28 were arrested, and 16 surrendered. Four DK-57s were seized and destroyed along with many others.

9884

CSO: 4206/77

LAOS

RIGHT TO OWN LAND REAFFIRMED: REAL ESTATE SALES OUTLAWED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 19, 20 Jan 84

["Conversation With the Editor"] Column: "Is There A Right To Own Land?"

[19 Jan 84 p 2]

[Text] [Question] On 11 January 1984 VIENTIANE MAI received a letter from a reader named "one who is just." First of all, we would like to thank "one who is just" for his kind remarks towards our newspaper. This reader is interested in an issue involving the right to own land, and we have summarized his main question as follows:

1. Parents, brothers, and sisters have had this property for a long time. It was purchased a long time ago, and there is no written document of the purchase. Now the administrative committee refuses to accept this right.
2. A number of people have started to build on that property without permission either from the owner or the administrative committee. They think that if it belongs to the government they can do whatever they want.
3. This land has many owners, a little for each. Those who engaged in the violation did not take the whole property but only wherever they wanted. The landowner questioned whether it was the government that had come in to build on it. However, when the landowner studied it as he had seen before, if it was the government they would have come and discussed it with the landowner first. Thus, it cannot be the government, but private individuals who want to use private right to seize the land. This is the problem. Please explain it to me.

We would like to discuss it as follows.

[Answer] 1. In order for this problem to be understood according to the law of the land, we would like to ask both parties (the brothers and sisters of the "one who is just" and those who violated the land) to understand the correct policies of our party. The following is our views on the problem.

Now we are all constructing our new fine socialist regime in which exploitation is not allowed; we will not have one side that owns companies,

factories, and land everywhere. However, if another is poor without a house to live in and seeks to be a slave attending the capitalist landowner, or to be a beggar, this regime will absolutely wipe out this [inequality].

Our regime has absolute justice. It is true justice. It is not deception by law or by mouth as in the rotten old regime.

[20 Jan 84 pp 2, 4]

Our party is most correct and just. In the [new] policy of the party they clearly indicated that this regime is the reinforcement of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and absolutely will not allow feudal dictatorial power, capitalists, and imperialists to happen again in the land of Laos. The true nature of the regime of the dictatorial proletariat is the exercise of the right of collective mastery of the people. No one is allowed to violate the right of collective mastery of the people. The right of collective mastery of the people in a socialist regime does not eliminate private rights, as the enemies have slandered. However, private rights will not be above the rights and interests of the whole and of collective rights.

Those who think that no one has private property rights at all in the new regime think they can just take whatever they want. This behavior plays into the enemies' tricks. It is called violating the right of mastery of the people. There is no doubt that whoever does this is wrong. However, some understand that the new regime is very informal and they take advantage of it by distorting the policies of the party and by taking a huge scoop out of whatever they see as their own when the country encounters difficulties. They hold on to their land, they are possessive of their land, they prohibit people from it and refuse to sell it when they are asked, and even when the price is high, they refuse. This is a mistake. This is a trace of the ideology of the exploitative capitalists and feudalists that we have already overthrown.

2. Based on the policies of the party and the opinions mentioned, we would like to give our opinion on the actual problem you mentioned. Those who claim to be the landowners should report their problem to the Department of Land and Government Housing and submit correct and complete papers according to the official requirements. We know that now they are reviewing both houses and land. At the present time they forbid all the reserving and purchasing of houses and land. The government will solve this problem reasonably and with utmost justice.

Those who are building on that piece of land should do things correctly. If we say that no one made it, the land has been there since the earth was made, and whoever wants it can have it, of course this is wrong because at least it must be worked by human labor in order to gradually become suitable for cultivation and construction. We must respect other people's labor in it. If they claim it belongs to them, but they do not do anything with it, when we want to do something with it we should talk nicely with him and also make a proposal to the administrative committee. Only if the committee agrees with your proposal can you then do it. But if they do not agree with it,

find somewhere else. We should always respect, love, and work with each other in order to solve any problem that may arise.

3. The canton administrative committee where the case occurs should put out its hands to reconcile this problem in a systematic manner. We should not decide to favor one person and reject another. Instead, we should focus on the truth and suggest that the landowner bring the problem up with land and government housing officials.

We know that all land and houses must have documents and a clear history in the immediate future. Then the higher echelons will decide who it should belong to. Thank you. The editor.

9884

CSO: 4206/77

SRV-AIDED GYPSUM MINING IN SAVANNAKHET DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Jan 84 p 2

[Feature article: "A Visit to the Gypsum Mine at Dong Hen"]

[Text] That morning, under the burning sun and to thunderous noises all around the gypsum mining area, excavators, transport trucks and drills performed under the command of Lao workers and comrade Vietnamese workers, enveloping the vegetation-covered earth with its vast natural resources in an unprecedented atmosphere.

Comrade Soui Louxavong, deputy administrator of gypsum mining and also responsible for technical matters, took us down to show the separate steps in mining for gypsum at Dong Hen in Savannakhet province. Compared to iron and coal mining, gypsum mining is easier and more accessible, because gypsum is located nearer the surface--only 4 meters deep--and on top of that, in some areas we can see gypsum on the surface. There are five phases in mining gypsum: digging and peeling the surface until the gypsum layer is reached, cleaning it, drilling holes to bury explosives, smashing the rock into big and small pieces as required, and finally distributing it.

The gypsum of Dong Hen is of high quality, which is classified into 3 categories: 100 percent, 90 percent and 80 percent pure. And based on preliminary research, it can be used for mixing into cement, plaster, molds, white chalk and, it is speculated, for compounding into sulfuric acid, scientific grade powders and top quality paper. The vast rolling hills stretch as far as the eye can see and are filled with gypsum covering 500 square km. During the old regime, it was mined by the French imperialists during 1932-1947; and during the period just preceeding the liberation of 1975, powerful reactionary military leaders and the American imperialists also had the goal of greedily scooping up this natural resource, but never got started.

In 1979, with the whole-hearted friendship, special solidarity and full assistance and cooperation between Laos and Vietnam, the comrades who shared weal and woe during the national liberation war assisted in building up and exploiting the gypsum in Dong Hen. That same year, Division 3 of the Ore and Sand Mining Federation of Vietnam's Ministry of Construction started to carry out their dutiful dedication to helping us, namely, in basic construction, gypsum mining and, along with that, training Lao workers.

Because the Dong Hen gypsum mine lies in an area that was heavily destroyed by the war, only scrub grows and it is a place where there is malaria, typhoid and other diseases. This has created difficulties for the Vietnamese and Lao workers who work there. But all those things could not vanquish their strong spirit.

Comrade Dinh Van Trac, the head of construction for the Vietnamese, mentioned that the past 5 years has been a period of testing but because of the assistance and guidance from his superiors, the cooperation of the population and the local administration of Dong Hen--all these have given them the motivation and favorable conditions for increasing their creativity, enabling them to struggle and accomplish their tasks successfully. Concerning basic construction, they have finished building living quarters, a cafeteria, a hospital, an electricity generating plant, a machine shop and other facilities. Concerning the mining of gypsum from 1980 to 1983, they produced 170,000 tonnes--with 1983 a special year when they produced 70,000 tonnes--which was considered to be trial production. Concerning the training of Lao administrative cadres and technical workers, they started two programs; 66 have finished training, 64 people are still in training. At the same time, they have sent some workers to study in the SRV.

We can say that the gypsum mining operation at Dong Hen is one of the many results of the friendship, special solidarity and full cooperation between the two nations, Laos and Vietnam. Success in the preliminary steps of exploiting the gypsum at Dong Hen shows the concern of the government and the people of Vietnam for the government and the people of Laos, not to mention their concern during the war of liberation against the French and American imperialists; likewise, their concern during the present struggle for national reconstruction and formative building of socialism.

On the day of the dedication ceremony for the gypsum mining operation, Mr Nguyen Vinh, deputy minister of the Ministry of Construction of the SRV stated that the ties between Vietnam and Laos are the objective principles of the Lao-Vietnamese revolution, similar to that of the Kampuchean one, and cannot be separated. Mr Nouxai Sitthixai, deputy minister of the Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry, also stated that in spite of the various obstacles during construction--not to mention natural difficulties, the great distance from building materials, constant malaria from mosquitoes and constant typhoid epidemics, the enemy puppets of the American imperialists and the reactionary forces built up by Beijing to interfere and obstruct--that we have successfully accomplished our construction plan this time. These guarantee once more the friendship, special solidarity and cooperation between the two states and the peoples of the two nations of Laos and Vietnam.

At the 3 square km zone 1 gypsum mining area, we met and got to know our Lao and Vietnamese fellow workers, who have been concentrating on their work so that they will be able to mine 100,000 tonnes of gypsum in line with this year's plan. Their spirit, friendship, special solidarity and whole-hearted cooperation show clearly the work performance of the Lao and Vietnamese workers, not to mention those of the fork lift, dirt truck, drilling machine, and machine repair units, which are like those of the others. They likewise coordinated and cooperated, helping, suggesting and exchanging mutual lessons. All of them seemed happy and determined to struggle collectively, to perform according to plan and to act according to the fifth resolution of the PRP central committee, with miraculous success.

12587

CSO: 4206/82

BRIEFS

OUDOMSAI DISTRICT SECURITY OPERATIONS--In 1983, the local military, police and guerrilla militia of Na Mo district in Oudomsai district all exerted their efforts to improve their forces continuously and to make their units become modern armed forces with every step. Along with that, they regularly patrolled and maintained the peace within their town; were able to promptly suppress spies sneaking into disturb the peace of the population; and confiscated a number of weapons and explosives. Besides that, they worked collectively in building and in various development projects to increase their self-sufficiency. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Jan 84 pp 1, 4] 12587

VIENTIANE BANK DEPOSITS--During the last 5 months, cadres, soldiers, organization workers, laborers, students, merchants, monks and the ordinary population affiliated with ministries, equivalent committee members, mass organizations, government departments, factories, companies and different districts of Vientiane--altogether 4,579 people--steadily and in crowds brought their money to deposit in the State Bank. During that period, they deposited their money in different branches of the State Bank, a total of approximately 3,622,700 kip. Among these groups, the most outstanding people were the United National Solidarity and Friendship Committee for World Peace, the Central Committee for the Lao Women's Patriotic Association, the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, the Inspection Committee of the State and Party, the Committee for Public Mobilization and the united front of the Party, the Ministry of Culture, the Agricultural Department of the Capital, the Finance Department of the Capital, the Administrative Office of the town of Saisettha, the quarry enterprise, housing construction company #3, roads and bridges construction company #1, the roads and bridges design company, the hotel corporation, the construction and restoration company, the animal feed company, the kilometer 2 brick factory and the Lao soap powder factory. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Jan 84 pp 1, 3 12587

USSR-AIDED MACHINERY PLANT--On 27 Jan, at Tha Ngon agricultural machinery plant, which is affiliated with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agricultural Cooperatives, an exhibition was held of the plants products of the past year. The machinery exhibited at this time was: large harrows, mechanical plows, fly wheel clutches, engine blocks, tractor repair, distilled water, acids, generators, alternators, regulators, hydraulic pumps, fuel injectors, high pressure pumps, small engines, sugar cane presses, tractor steering controls--a total of 1500 pieces, worth many hundreds of thousands of kip. These

products were manufactured with the cooperation of Soviet specialists. Gathered in honor of the opening for the plant products exhibition were: Mr Inkong Mahavong, PRP central committee member and Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives. Mr Kideng Thammavong, Mr Khamsing Saignakon, Mr Khamsen Vongnokeo, deputy ministers of the Ministry of Agriculture along with other cadres and a number of guests also attended. Mr Konstantin Stepanov, the Soviet Union's economic counselor to Laos, along with specialists from the plant, also came and joined in honoring the occasion. At the ceremony, the representative of the administrative committee gave a report about the importance of the results of the work and the victory of the cadres and workers in coordinating and sincerely cooperating with the international proletariat, the specialist comrades from the Soviet Union. After that he invited the guests to admire the products on display. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Jan 84 pp 1, 3] 12587

VIENTIANE CAPITAL PSS WORK--From January to December 1984 the LPRYU grassroots unit under the Public Security Service (PSS) in Chanthabouri, Vientiane Capital, determinedly carried out the policies of the party and government in a revolutionary manner with many results. It patrolled 79 times, guarded strongholds, roads, and different important national and local celebrations 205 times with 618 participants, checked situations and propaganda organizations both extensively and in depth 73 times with 29 participants, settled different cases 75 times, and registered family records and checked various travel permits, etc 529 times with 97 participants. They also transplanted rice, dug fish ponds, cleared gardens, engaged in collective sanitation, and drew rations 256 times with 80 participants. Comrade Bounhian Hengsaipangna, secretary of the district PSS, also told us that after the period of scoring achievements that year there were 16 comrades who were active and honored as outstanding cadres, of which seven comrades were in the first category: Comrades Phomma Mingbouppha, Chanson, Souphan, Phet Sivilai, Thongsa, Bounhian Hengsaipangna, and Leun. Now the PSS youth of this district are continually carrying out their specialized task and are maintaining the security and order of the people and the country. They also scored achievements to welcome the 35th anniversary of LPA Day on 20 January with joyful spirits. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 1 Jan 84 pp 1, 4] 9884

CSO: 4206/77

PRC EMBASSY OFFICIAL ON SINO-MALAYSIAN TRADE RELATIONS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 25 Dec 83 p 2

[Text] Wang Ji, outgoing counselor of the PRC embassy, today pointed out that after more than 10 years of diplomatic relations between the PRC and Malaysia, both sides should not be content with the present trading situation but should continue to strive to intensify Sino-Malaysian trade for their mutual benefit.

Having completed his 4-year tour of duty in Malaysia, counselor Wang, accompanied by his successor, Shang Fuchen, today visited Malacca to bid farewell to officers of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce where they were warmly received by its president, Datuk Lim Kim Soo and Datuk Yeoh Tiao.

Counselor Wang told a gathering at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium that he came to Malacca to take his leave and to express his appreciation for the support and cooperation accorded him over the past 4 years.

He was convinced that through mutual cooperation, China and Malaysia can solve their common problems and that Sino-Malaysian trade will continue to develop extensively.

The new Chinese counselor, Shang Fuchen, said in a speech that he is convinced that he will get the continued support and cooperation of the local chamber of commerce during his term of office.

Earlier, Goh Kock Khee, general affairs director of the Malacca Chinese Chamber of Commerce, said that both Malaysia and China are developing countries, that China, with its large population, offers a wide market and that it has been vigorously promoting its four modernizations. "China needs all kinds of raw materials, so we hope China will, under the principle of mutual benefit, buy Malaysian rubber, tin ore, palm oil, timber, primary products, manufactured items and semiprocessed goods in order to reverse Malaysia's traditional deficit in the Sino-Malaysian trade and to attain the goal of trade equilibrium," he said.

Mr Goh continued: "Like other countries, China does not adopt the system of agency to market its products overseas in a methodical way. In recent years, however, due to reform in China's foreign trade structure, Chinese foreign trade activities in various cities have been encouraged and export organizations speedily increased. This was followed by a series of new working methods, including subsidized and compensatory trade and the processing of incoming materials, which has returned

the original unified, single-lane export system into a multichannel export system. As a result, many nondistributors, utilizing all kinds of connections, are now able to obtain larger quantities of commodities than bonafide distributors to flood the market in various cities. Not only has this phenomenon dealt a blow to the distributors' interests but it has also disturbed and ruined the entire distribution plan."

Mr Goh hoped that Chinese export corporations and their distribution departments will pay close attention to this abnormal circumstance and take effective measures against it.

At the same time Mr Goh expressed hope that after arriving back in China, departing counselor Wang will brief the departments concerned about the difficulties faced by Chinese commodities overseas, so that the products will gain a wider market and more orderly development in Malaysia.

Accompanying the two Chinese embassy counselors to Malacca were three secretaries of the Chinese Commercial Office, namely, Wang Caikao, Li Zhijie and Chen Peiyuan as well as Yu Shuhong, liaison officer.

9300

CSO: 4205/35A

EDITORIAL EXAMINES IMPLICATION OF CHANGES IN POPULATION MAKEUP

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 20 Dec 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] According to the 1980 census report, our country's population sharply increased by 2,930,600 during the past decade to reach 13,742,200.

The most glaring fact is that in Peninsular Malaysia, the proportion of Malays rose from 52.7 percent in 1970 to 55.3 percent in 1980, while that of the Chinese dropped from 35.8 percent. During the same period, the Indian population proportion also dropped from 10.7 percent to 10.2 percent.

These changes in population makeup also occurred in East Malaysia's Sabah and Sarawak. Over there, the proportion of bumiputras, particularly Malays, also registered an increase, while that of the Chinese in these two states was down by 5.1 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively.

This does not mean that the Chinese population showed no increase at all during the past 10 years. Actually, the number rose by 1.6 percent in Peninsular Malaysia and by 1.1 and 2 percent in Sabah and Sarawak, respectively. What the census revealed was that during the same period, the growth rate was relatively rapid--by 2.7 percent in Peninsular Malaysia and by an even higher rate of 3.2 percent in Sarawak. At these rates, the ratio between bumiputra and non-bumiputra inhabitants will show a wider and wider gap with the passing of time.

Why do we have such a situation?

First of all, it is obvious that Chinese society has changed its past "the more children, the greater wealth" concept. The intellectuals, influenced by modern thinking through popular education, mostly practice birth control and rear two to three children at most, in sharp contrast to their past traditions.

Second, more and more Chinese, particularly males, marry late, so that 30-year-old singles have become a common sight.

These two factors are not so prevalent in Malay society. The result is that an average Malay family consists of 4.6 persons, whereas an average Chinese family consists of 3.3 persons and an Indian family of 3.6 persons. If this trend persists, after scores of years, our population makeup will undergo a major change.

At a conference of the 33d United Malays National Organization [UMNO] held in September last year, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir pointed out that we must review our population policy if we want to make progress in our manufacturing industry. He maintained that at a time when industrialized countries are adopting protectionism, we need to increase our population in order to create a huge domestic market for our products. He even stressed that if people work diligently and become a greater productive force, our country will be able to accommodate as many as 70 million people.

Facts have also proved that due to rapid agricultural and industrial development, our country is more and more faced with the problem of a serious manpower shortage, which has caused an influx of immigrants from overseas. Under such a situation, shouldn't the Chinese community rally around the prime minister's call and reexamine their viewpoint concerning family planning?

9300

CSO: 4205/35A

NO RESTRICTIONS FOR CHINESE MERCHANTS WHO TRADE WITH CHINA

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 21 Dec 83 p 12

[Text] Oo Gin Sun, deputy minister of trade and industry, today asserted that the authorities do not restrict individual merchants who visit the People's Republic of China [PRC] to do business.

He said that in the past few years there has been no problem with those merchants who regularly visited the PRC, with the exception of some others who are under government surveillance.

The deputy minister made these remarks before reporters after a 2-and- $\frac{1}{2}$ hour-long closed-door dialogue with a delegation of the Malaysian Chinese Chamber of Commerce Federation at his office today.

Wong Tok Chai, vice president of the federation, described the meeting with the deputy minister as pleasant and fruitful.

This was a dialogue between the public sector and private circles. The Chinese delegation presented its views and proposals on certain issues and solicited the help of the Trade and Industry Ministry to resolve them.

Deputy Minister Oo indicated that the department concerned will attempt to resolve their difficulties. For instance, commercial circles have discovered that the list of ASEAN's preferential trading commodities is incomplete, so the authorities plan to issue a list of 18,000 kinds of commodities next March under the ASEAN preferential treatment for the benefit of industrial and commercial circles.

As regards trading with China, he said there is no problem for businessmen who wish to go there on business once a year. However, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce's suggestion for the Malaysian government to lift the ban against merchants traveling freely in China after attending the Guangshou Trade Fair or a similar exhibition in any other specific city needs further study by the authorities before a decision can be made.

With respect to the Commercial Registration Act, the deputy minister pointed out that registered trading companies have been on the increase. In 1980 there were 38,000 registered companies and by November 1983 the figure has soared to 63,000.

He indicated that one day the registration procedure will be done by computer, which will be simpler and faster than it is today.

In addition, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce delegation appealed to the government to review its preferential treatment of the bumiputras, because this practice is making it difficult for the Chinese and Malay chambers of commerce to cooperate in joint enterprises. Such cooperation is essential, because the two chambers of commerce are at present striving to set up a Joint Board of Directors to determine the realm of their cooperation.

9300

CSO: 4205/35A

CHINESE RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESERVE CHINESE-LANGUAGE EDUCATION

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 25 Dec 83 p 8

[Text] Chia Wee Keung, vice chairman of National Youth of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], wondered whether in an industrialized society and under utilitarianism, ethnic Chinese people will follow in Singapore's footsteps in renouncing the study of Chinese-language education. He looks to some cultural organizations to hold high the torch in defense of Chinese education.

Mr Chia, concurrently the leader of a roving cultural troupe of MCA's youth wing, was speaking at the opening of the troupe's public performance on Banglo Island last evening.

He pointed out that in Singapore only 0.1 percent among beginning school children have applied for admission into Chinese primary schools for next year and that the Singapore Ministry of Education has announced the suspension of new Grade I classes for Chinese primary schools. In other words, Chinese primary schools will no longer exist. In a country where the ethnic Chinese constitute the majority, why is it that only 6 years of Chinese schooling is not welcome?

In Mr Chia's opinion, this is because the Chinese are practical-minded, and Chinese parents think that Chinese education has a low market value and that it would not guarantee a bright future for their children.

Mr Chia held that Malaysia is a multiracial country, so the existence of Chinese primary schools is more challenging in nature. The Chinese must safeguard the existence and development of Chinese education on the basis of Article 152 of the national constitution. "This is an issue about which we have worried about and discussed for a long period of time," he said.

The MCA is always concerned over the fate of Chinese primary schools and struggling for Chinese education and culture. In line with the rights stipulated in the constitution, no one shall be forbidden to learn or speak his mother tongue or teach or study any other language, and no one shall harm the practical application and research of the language of any other race.

He said that according to Article 152 of the constitution, the fundamental right of the Chinese an education in their mother tongue and to their culture is a fact brooks no intervention. Therefore, with their united political force, the Chinese must safeguard this right in order to guarantee the continued existence and de-

must safeguard this right in order to guarantee the continued existence and development of education in their mother tongue.

At present, the MCA is still a strong member of the National Front government, and this constitutional right cannot be subject to challenge. Yet, the Chinese are causing worries for themselves, because in the industrialized society of today and under the realistic conditions of utilitarianism, the Chinese are abandoning the study of their own mother tongue as the Chinese are in Singapore.

Mr Chia maintained that events in Singapore and facts brought before our eyes have proved that such worries do exist. Many people who raise their arms and shout "We love Chinese education!" send their children to other schools.

He stressed that the existence and development of education in the mother tongue and of culture need the efforts and self-respect of the Chinese people. The time has come for Chinese educational and cultural organizations to be prepared for contingencies and to launch the "torch movement" of the 1950's, encouraging Chinese parents, particularly those residing in urban areas, to send their children to Chinese primary schools.

9300

CSO: 4205/35A

BANKERS DECRY CB'S IMPOSITION OF IMF REQUIREMENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Mar 84 p 12

[Article by Loreto Cabanes]

[Text] Efficient banks and financial institutions felt they were being placed in the Central Bank's seemingly desperate attempt to bring down the level of net domestic assets (NDA) of the financial system to within the ceiling required by the International Monetary Fund.

Quite ironically, the inefficient ones were getting in emergency advances what was being mopped up from the banking system through the hiked reserve requirements.

What is worse, the bankers pointed out, the emergency advances granted by the CB to the ailing banks and financial institutions were much larger than what was siphoned off from the banking system through the increased reserve requirements against deposits and deposit substitutes.

In an effort to reduce the level of NDA, which amounted to P180 billion at the end of 1983, to the level required by the IMF, the CB last year raised the bank reserve requirements by three percentage points from 18 per cent to 21 per cent of total deposit liabilities.

Estimates made by the CB then showed that for every percentage point hike in reserve requirements, about P750 million was to have been withdrawn from the banking system and "frozen" with the CB. This was roughly equivalent to a total of P2.25 billion in funds that were frozen as a result.

The objective of this exercise was to reduce the level of liquidity in the system so that the domestic credit, as a component of the NDA, remained at a level that would stabilize the economy and control inflationary pressures resulting from the adjustments in the exchange rate of the peso.

To the banks and financial institutions, the amount of funds frozen from the increase in reserve requirements mean a bit loss since the CB pays only three per cent on bank clearing accounts against the current market interest rates ranging from 25 to 30 per cent per annum.

On the other hand, the CB extended roughly P3.8 billion in emergency advances to banks and financial institutions during the last three months of 1983, negating the objectives designed to be accomplished by the increase in deposit reserves.

Of these advances, some P3.2 billion were extended to commercial banks which suffered massive withdrawals and the rest to thrift banks and financing firms with quasi-banking functions which suffered similar fate.

One commercial bank alone, which is under conservatorship following orders of the monetary board, now has a total of P800 million CB advances, equivalent to more than the amount of funds frozen from a one percentage point hike in reserve requirements.

Another financial institution got advances of about P400 million before and after it went under conservatorship.

Certain sectors in the financial community felt that unless a drastic move was taken by the CB against the weak financial institutions, the "bleeding" of the NDA could not be contained, much less brought down to the ceiling required by the IMF.

The said the drastic move should involve stopping grants of additional emergency advances to banks and financial institutions that have been weakened financially by fraud, mismanagement, and bad loans with no further hope for collections.

Banks that were extended emergency advances in the past by the CB but which are now in a position to pay back those loans must now be required to pay in full their remaining balances with the CB.

Another factor which was cited as responsible for the swelling of NDA was the surrender of dollars by the commercial banks for pesos with the CB as required under Circular No. 970.

CSO: 4200/591

MAYOR EXPANDS KKK PROGRAM TO HIGHER-LEVEL ENTERPRISES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Mar 84 p 28

[Text] Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing expanded yesterday the loan coverage of City Hall's KKK program to include higher-level business enterprises.

The mayor directed lawyer Ramon S. Bagatsing Jr., executive chairman of the Manila KKK program committee, to consider extending loans also to entrepreneurs engaged in such business enterprises as warehousing, transport facilities and trading services.

The KKK loan program so far has only covered primary and secondary levels of borrowers such as home producers, processors, small shop owners and licensed vendors.

Recently, 30 Manilans of little financial means were given loans of P 1,000 each to engage in home industries. The amounts were distributed by the mayors at ceremonies held in City Hall.

City Administrator Genaro S. Herrera said that under the new plan of the mayor, the private sector will be asked to participate in way of providing technical assistance in the form of project identification and development, technical evaluation, marketing and promotion and organization of beneficiary institutions.

The mayor ordered that the projects to be financed under the expanded coverage should preferably be labor intensive in addition to having low investment-to-beneficiary ratio.

CSO: 4200/591

CAGAYAN DE ORO POLITICAL ALLIANCES FOUND 'PARADOXICAL'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Mar 84 p 6

[Article by Orlando F. Aquino: "A Paradoxical Situation"]

[Excerpt] A paradoxical political situation seems to have developed in Cagayan de Oro City. Our information is that former Congressman and Mayor "Oloy" Roa, who is running as the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) candidate for the Batasan, is being supported by Misamis Oriental Gov. Homobono Adaza, the oppositionist Mindanao Alliance (MA) leader.

On the other hand, incumbent Mayor Aquilino Pimentel, the oppositionist PDP-Laban stalwart who has declared his candidacy, is reportedly being supported by the camp of erstwhile KBL regional chairman Assemblyman Emmanuel Pelaez.

This practice of crossing party lines is not really new in politics, particularly in Cagayan de Oro City which has spawned one of the country's foremost political butterflies. And it is common knowledge that in the last local elections, a major factor in Pimentel's victory over the Pelaez-backed candidate was the support of Roa.

Now, it's Pimentel vs. Roa in a showdown battle for political supremacy in a "crossed party line" situation that could "short circuit" one way or the other. What's that they say again of politics having strange bedfellows?

CSO: 4200/591

CARDINAL SIN PLEADS OPPOSITION CAUSE AT ROTARY MEETING

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Mar 84 p 6

[Text] Jaime L. Cardinal Sin called on Rotarians to help keep the opposition alive in the Philippines to ensure the preservation of democracy in the country.

In his keynote address on the second day of the three-day annual district conference of Rotary International District 380 at the Valle Verde Country Club in Pasig, Sin said that without the opposition, authoritarian rule would continue to prevail here. He asked his more than 1,000 listeners to be patient with the opposition which is now fragmented and appears to have cross purposes.

He said the opposition should not be blamed for such fragmentation because "it has become rustic for more than 10 years now during the martial law regime," but expressed the hope all the fragments would unite in a coalition like the opposition parties of Japan, Italy, and some South American countries.

Sin also batted for the holding of free and honest elections in May, this year, saying it is another measure that would help preserve democracy. He was given a standing ovation by the Rotarians.

In today's closing rites, District 380 Gov. Mike Ampil will report on the creation of 15 more Rotary clubs and several Rotaract and Interact clubs, the growth and development of membership in and civic-oriented projects of local Rotary clubs, the addition of more than 130 Rotarians in the roster of Paul Harris Fellows, and approval by the RI board of directors of the "districting program" which led to the creation of District 379.

CSO: 4200/591

EDITORIAL LINKS USSR BUILDUP IN SRV TO U.S. BASES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Mar 84 p 5

[Editorial: "Cam Ranh Bay"]

[Text] IN recent months, American defense officials have been reporting the deployment of Soviet missiles in the eastern part of that country, obviously aimed at targets in Asia. The SS-20 missiles were said to have been positioned in response to the United States' own moves to deploy more Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles in Europe. It seems that every move taken by one side is met with a countermove from the other side, resulting in an endless escalation of weaponry which the world has come to call the balance of terror.

At one time, a visiting Soviet official declared that the SS-20 missiles in Siberia were not aimed at the Philippines, but we cannot draw real assurance from the statement, for we do have American bases here and in any military action, they would be targets of Soviet attack.

The disclosure the other day that the Soviets have now deployed TU-16 bombers at Cam Ranh Bay, the former US base in South Vietnam, certainly raises new fears. The bombers as well as nuclear attack submarines based at Cam Ranh Bay are said to be capable of closing vital sea lanes in the region, particularly the Strait of Malacca through which Middle East oil for East Asia passes. Of greater concern to us, of course, is the fact that they are also capable of hitting Subic and Clark bases, which are just a short distance, as bombers and missiles go, from Cam Ranh Bay.

American Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense James Kelly told a congressional hearing that the buildup in Vietnam seems to be part of "a deliberate plan to become ready for war in Asia."

In a nuclear war, no place on earth would be really safe but the presence of US bases here makes us especially vulnerable. We have, however, come to accept them as part of the role we have to play in this part of the world. For their continued use of these bases, the Americans pay us rent, although they prefer to call it aid. Right now, we are involved in a kind of confrontation over the U.S. Congress' move to revise the "aid package to increase the amount for economic undertakings and lessen that for military programs.

In the face of these developments, we can only respond with equanimity--both to the Soviet deployment of bombers in Vietnam and to the American revision of the base package. The Soviet moves, in particular, are cause for apprehension but we must continue to rely on the good sense of the world's leaders and hope that all these preparations for war will never progress to actual fighting in which we would inevitably be involved.

CSO: 4200/591

TRADE DEFICIT WITH JAPAN GROWS BY 88 PERCENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Mar 84 p 7

[Text]

The country's trade deficit with Japan swelled further by 88 per cent in 1983 from \$226.76 million in 1982 to \$437.06 million, statistics gathered from the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) showed.

Total trade between the two countries, meanwhile, dropped anew as transactions reached \$3.05 billion or down by .09 per cent from 1982's \$3.38 billion.

The same statistics, which were culled by JETRO from official Japanese government sources, showed that the balance of trade continued to favor Japan since 1981 when the gap hit \$197.11 million. The last time the Philippines enjoyed a favorable balance of trade with

Japan was in 1980 when the former posted a surplus of ₱268.09 million.

The Japanese statistics vary greatly from official Philippine figures as shown by the contrasting figures supplied by the two parties.

For instance, the Philippine exports in 1982 to Japan totalled \$1.14 billion while Japanese figures showed the same exports at \$1.58 billion, or a difference of over \$400 million.

Philippine trade figures for 1983 were not yet complete. Statistics gathered from the National Census Statistics Office (NCSO) revealed that for the first three quarters of the year, the two-way trade between the two countries reached only \$1.74 billion.

Philippine exports for the nine-month period totalled \$737.98 million while imports from Japan amounted to \$1 billion.

Japanese statistics, on the other hand, showed that Philippine exports for a 12-month period reached \$1.31 billion while imports totalled \$1.74 billion.

The disparity in official figures has been traced to dollar salting and smuggling which lately have been the object of a government campaign.

On the country's trade deficit, government officials earlier attributed this to the increasing importation of capital goods and the poor export performance of agricultural products such as bananas whose exports are being restricted by non-tariff barriers.

CSO: 4200/591

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP IN PALAWAN OPPOSED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Mar 84 p 7

[Article by Rene Alviar]

[Text]

PUERTO PRINCESA, PALAWAN, Mar. 5 — The Ministry of Natural Resources expressed yesterday strong opposition to the proposal of the Ministry of Energy to dump nuclear waste materials in Palawan from the Philippine nuclear power plant nearing completion in Morong, Bataan.

Minister Teodoro Q. Peña told the Bulletin that the plan of the Ministry of Energy to dump nuclear wastes in Palawan would cause undue risk to the safety of the public as well as to the environment.

He pointed out that if there would be leakage in the facility which was designed to contain nuclear waste materials, the fishing grounds of Palawan would no longer be

habitable by fish and other marine life, or that fish so contaminated would no longer be safe for eating.

He disclosed that about 500 hectares or more of land and/or fishing grounds in Palawan are being considered as dumping grounds for nuclear wastes.

Nuclear wastes, estimated to contain several thousand tons of radioactive materials, will come from the ₱2.2 billion Bataan nuclear power plant during its first and second year of operation.

The plant was designed to generate 620 megawatt of electric power starting January 1985. The National Power Corp., operator of the nuclear plant,

will use pelletized uranium from the United States to fuel the atomic reactor which will in turn generate electricity.

During its course of operations, not all the nuclear fuel would be burned, thus producing wastes which contain radioactive material.

REPORTAGE ON MINDANAO REBELS KILLED, CAPTURED

Two Killed, Eight Caught

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Mar 84 p 20

[Text] CAMP EVANGELISTA, Misamis Oriental--Two suspected rebels were killed while eight others, including a dissident leader who carries a P50,000 reward for his capture dead or alive, were arrested in three raids in Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur Sunday.

Brig. Gen. Madrino C. Munoz, 4th Infantry division commander, identified the captured dissident leader as Isabelo Remonsada alias "Kumander Itok."

Munoz said troops under Brig. Gen. Cervando Lara, 24th brigade commander, recovered from the suspected rebels two high-powered firearms following a raid at the outskirts of Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

Soldiers of the 29th infantry battalion under Lt. Col. Manuel del Puerto conducted another raid in barangay Catmonon, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, and captured five members of the New People's Army. The army troops recovered five handguns.

The identities of those arrested were withheld. (CANJr.)

Regional CPP Secretary

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Mar 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] BANGKASI, Butuan City--Military authorities confirmed yesterday the capture of the three top officials of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in Northeastern Mindanao by the town police of Nasipit, Agusan del Norte.

At the same time, Brig. Gen. Servando Lara, commander of the 2nd brigade of the 4th infantry division, ordered an investigation of the alleged maltreatment by some policemen of one of the arrested dissident leaders.

Arrested were Nilo Mainit, Nabong, 28, an agricultural graduate of the Xavier University, alleged regional chairman and secretary of the CPP-New People's

Army; Isabelo Remonsada, alleged first vice-chairman; and Florentino Eranzuela, alleged regional politburo chairman.

Also arrested were Annie Hijos, chashier of the Nasipit district hospital, and Jimmy Dejarme, car driver. The two were arrested because they were riding in the same car with the alleged CPP officials.

The report of capture came two days after local police led by Mayor Pedrito Carmona arrested the suspects last Sunday in barangay Kamagong, Nasipit town.

The suspects were reported on their way to meet other CPP officials in Iligan City when they were intercepted by the police. They were unarmed.

Lara said that the documents seized from the suspects revealed that Nabong took over as Northeastern Mindanao party committee chairman following a re-organizational meeting in Salay, Misamis Oriental (Casiano Navarro)

CSO: 4200/591

COJUANGCO INFLUENCE IN TARLAC RACE REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Mar 84 p 6

[Article by Jesus Bigornia]

[Text] The late Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr. served his town and province long and well. Between 1959 to 1967, he was elected successively as mayor of Concepcion, vice governor and then governor of Tarlac. Not a few expected him to become President of the Philippines. He was Tarlac's political fair-haired boy. Because he was assassinated last August, it may be assumed that Tarlac voters would go heavily for the candidates of the opposition in the coming Batasan election. Right? Wrong!

The hard facts of political life in Tarlac indicate that, unlike in opposition-oriented provinces like Pampanga, it will be the two Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) candidates for Tarlac's two seats in the Batasan that will be difficult to beat. For they will be the candidates of "The Americano," Ambassador Eduardo Cojuangco, business and financial tycoon, and political "kingmaker." Practically every politician, from the provincial down to the barangay level, as well as civic and religious leaders of Tarlac owe "The Americano" some favor in one form or another. Unlike absentee leaders, Ambassador Cojuangco has maintained very personal contact with the people who count in his province.

One of the KBL candidates in Tarlac is Mr. Cojuangco's sister, reelectionist Assemblywoman Mercedes "Ditas" Conjuangco Teodoro, wife of Social System administrator Gilberto Teodoro. No one in his right mind can expect her to lose. Despite the formidable strength of the ruling party, there are those in the opposition willing and ready to do battle. One such champion is former Rep. Jose Yap, of Victoria. Another is former Secretary Mose Feliciano, of Concepcion, who is reported "toying with the idea of running." But, as has been pointed out earlier, the strong sentiment of Tarlaquenos for the late Senator Aquino, may not be strong enough to resist the Cojuangco juggernaut.

CSO: 4200/591

PHILIPPINES

AGRAVA SAYS FIRST LADY MAY NOT BE CALLED TO TESTIFY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Rey G. Panaligan]

[Excerpt] The First Lady and Human Settlements Minister Imelda R. Marcos may not be called anymore to testify on the assassination of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino Jr. "because of the latest turn of events," Chairman Corazon Juliano Agrava said yesterday.

Agrava did not elaborate on what events have developed in the board's inquiry.

The board decided to call the First Lady to testify after she was quoted by former Senator Salvador Laurel as warning that Aquino would be dead if Aquino returned to Manila.

Laurel had said in his testimony that Mrs. Marcos warned Aquino three times-- first in New York in her meeting with the former senator, and twice at the Batasang Pambansa in her meeting with Laurel.

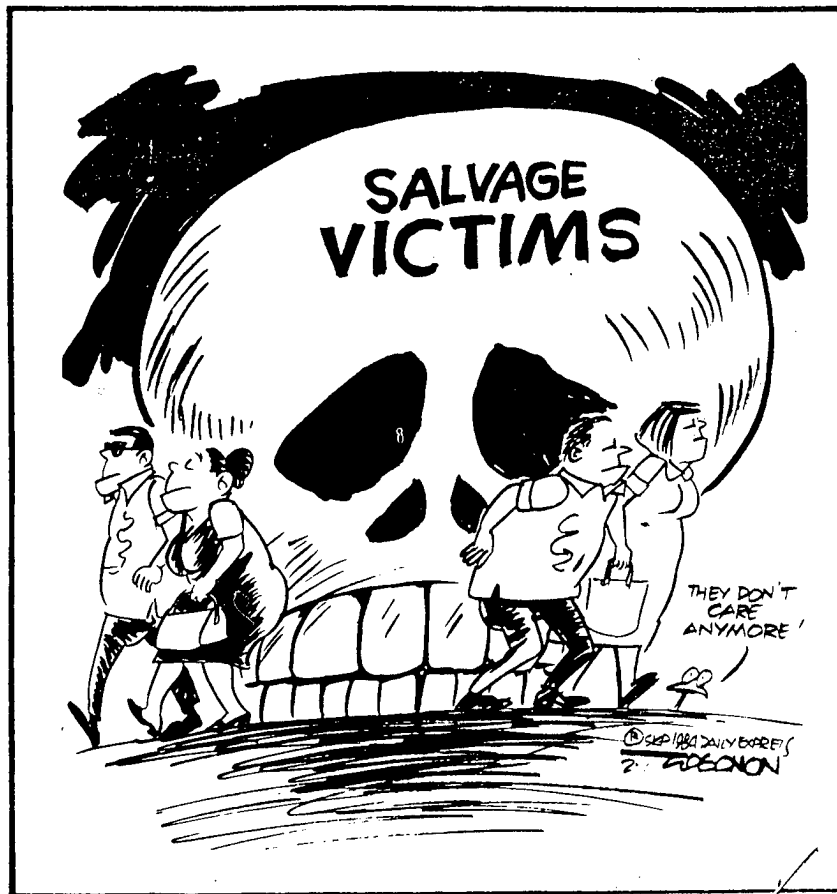
CSO: 4200/591

EDITORIAL, CARTOON QUESTION PUBLIC SILENCE ON KILLINGS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Mar 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Why the Silence?"]

[Text]



ANOTHER body was fished out of a murky city estero the other day, an apparent victim of a rubout or "salvage," as it is now commonly known.

The discovery of bodies, most of them heavily tattooed and bearing numerous stab wounds, has of late become a common occurrence. Victims are usually found sprawled on sidestreets, floating in rivers or canals, or decomposing on vacant lots. Their murders are extraordinarily vicious--hands and feet bound with wire, faces and bodies mutilated, torsos peppered with stab wounds, ears cut off, eyes gouged out, and extremities severed.

Who are behind these summary executioners?

Since the first few cases of salvaging a few years back, the widespread belief--if only whispered in intimate groups--has been that it is the police, or rather, a secret group within the police force, licensed to eliminate the incorrigibles, the recidivists, the hopelessly notorious among the known criminals.

Another theory has been forwarded by the police: rival criminal gangs are rubbing each other out and the vendetta is escalating. Still another theory is that some citizens have formed vigilante groups to rid their communities of drug pushers, thieves, and goons.

What is disturbing, is the seeming acceptance by the public and the authorities of these salvagings as a fact of contemporary life. It would seem that people have conditioned themselves to accept summary executions as an acceptable, even desirable and swift, way of getting rid of criminals. If this is not so, then why the silence?

One would think that the public would at least be bothered by this transgression of justice and utter disregard for human life. One would expect that a serious investigation would at least be initiated by the authorities as to who the executioners are. But where are the voices that will seek justice for these salvage victims?

CSO: 4200/591

FAKE NPA SURRENDERS REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Mar 84 p 36

[Article by Ramon Tulfo in the "Police News Roundup" column]

[Excerpt] Next time you read or hear about mass surrenders of NPA guerrillas or Muslim rebels, don't take the report at face value. A resident of Sta. Cruz, Zambales writes that a Major Orphilla of the local PC command recently made NPAs out of peace-loving citizens in Tubo-Tubo Norte, Sta. Cruz for the benefit of his superiors in Camp Crame. Our informant says he and 120 other residents, including the barangay captain and councilmen, were herded into a truck, taken to the PC camp, and blotted as NPA surrenderees.

Our informant says he and his barriomates went with the soldiers because they thought they would be given free rice and medicines. At the samp, he says, he and his companions were made to pose for pictures and sign papers renouncing their supposed membership with the New People's Army.

This informant says it was the second time Major Orphilla did it. The first time was in Sto. Rosario, Masinloc town where menfolk were made to "surrender" so the PC officer would receive a pat on the head from higher headquarters.

CSO: 4200/591

BRIEFS

AQUINO ESCORT PROMOTED--AN air force sergeant who was an escort guard when former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino Jr. was murdered at Manila International Airport last Aug. 21 has been named a reserve second-lieutenant, Sgt. Arnulfo de Mesa was among 189 men Malacanang said were being commissioned "as part of the build-up of the country's reserve pool in accordance with the National Defense Act." The order was effective Feb. 20. (Rueter) [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Mar 84 p 1]

NPA FORMS NEW GROUP IN DAVAO--DAVAO CITY--A new group of the New People's Army operating in Davao City reportedly seceded from its previous mother unit and formed an "urban guerrilla unit" (UGU). The urban guerrilla unit was tagged by the military as behind the series of grenade throwing incidents which killed prominent people including some members of the local PC/INP. The operation of the UGU surfaced after some of their members were apprehended and executed affidavits stating that they renounced their affiliation from their previous mother unit. According to reports, there are about 100 officers and men of UGU operating within the city of Davao. They are usually hired to liquidate prominent personalities of Davao, the report said. [By Owen Masanganda] [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Mar 84 p 28]

NAVY CHIEF ASSURES PUBLIC--Philippine Navy Chief Simeon M. Alejandro said yesterday that the navy is capable of guarding the country's territorial seas against illegal entrants, poachers, and fishers. He added that "there should be no cause for alarm." Alejandro said that coast guard vessels and naval defense force patrol ships are strategically deployed in critical areas, particularly Palawan, Batanes, and Sulu to check illegal maritime activities. He said that the navy's operations led to the arrests of 195 persons for illegal fishing and seizure of 40 vessels and other watercraft during the last 14 months. Capt. Manuel de Leon, navy information officer, reported that 198 illegal entrants were arrested and 12 of their watercraft impounded. De Leon said that there were about 970 persons caught in anti-smuggling drive. He said 22 persons were arrested for piracy while 79 others were detained for incursion into Philippine waters. Alejandro said that he will intensify the campaign against lawless elements at sea with the help of other navy's law enforcement arms. [By Wilma Yamson] [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 4 Mar 84 p 11]

CSO: 4200/591

THAILAND

INFORMATION OFFICIAL DISCUSSES INDOCHINA ISSUES

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 29 Jan 84 pp 44-46

[Interview with Saowanit Khongsiri, the director-general of the Information Department; date and place not specified]

[Excerpt] [Question] Concerning the chronic problem along the Thai-Kampuchean border--where things do not show any sign of improving--people in general have the feeling that this problem will go on and on. In particular, during the dry season, the military expects there to be heavy fighting along the Thai-Kampuchean border. Will this affect the [Thai] people living along the border?

[Answer] As for the immediate problems, the dry season will begin soon. Every year during the past 4 years, the Vietnamese forces in Kampuchea, which number between 160,000 and 180,000 men, have launched operations to eliminate the opposition, that is, the Kampucheans who want to expel the foreign troops that came and occupied Kampuchea 5 years ago and that toppled the lawful government of Kampuchea and installed the Heng Samrin group in its place. The opposition, of which Prince Sihanouk is the president, Khieu Samphan is the vice president and Son Sann is the prime minister, has established a government near the Thai border in the area opposite Prachinburi and Chanthaburi provinces.

Thus, when Vietnam launches an operation to eliminate the opposition, it affects Thailand. People flee across the border and [artillery] shells land in Thailand. The daily lives of the more than 200,000 Thais who live along the border are affected, and they cannot live normal lives. Since this has been the case every year during these operations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the [Thai] military and the Ministry of Interior have made preparations to deal with this situation. We have discussed this with our allies and with 17 international organizations to make them aware of the danger that may arise soon, or in the dry season, so that they prepare food, drugs and medical facilities to help the people who are injured in the fighting. We are ready, and the military is ready to take defensive action to prevent Vietnamese troops from entering Thai territory.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is responsible for foreign policy, has tried to make various preparations in order to prevent the Vietnamese operations in Kampuchea from having an effect on Thailand. We have taken various diplomatic measures. But I do not want to go into the details since there are several things that I cannot discuss.

In short, concerning the Thai-Kampuchean border, we are trying to limit as much as possible the effects on Thailand resulting from Vietnamese dry-season operations against the opposition. We are prepared on all fronts, particularly concerning those Thais who might be affected, and we will not allow anyone to violate Thai territory.

[Question] But Thailand's policy of supporting the Khmer coalition is wrong because it forces us to have to confront Vietnam directly. Also, this affects the Thai border area and creates difficulties for the more than 200,000 people living in that area. And there is no end in sight.

[Answer] The important thing that forms the basis of our Kampuchean policy is that Thailand cannot acquiesce in Country A, which has strong military forces, sending troops into Country B, which is weaker, and then toppling the lawful government of that country and installing a puppet group. Thailand cannot accept this. If we accept this, it may happen to Thailand. This is the most important point.

Vietnam is a communist country. It used communist methods in the past. That is, it used military force as a tool to gain power. It invaded Kampuchea. It has refused to withdraw its forces since it believes that time is on its side. It believes that it has the advantage since others will become tired of the matter. At first, there might be opposition, but as time passes things will calm down. They will occupy Kampuchea and place it under their control.

[Question] Since the people living along the Thai border have had to experience such terrible things every year and since it is expected that the situation will be even worse this year, what preparations have the government units concerned made?

[Answer] I like to compare this to us living in a house that is located in a village. The neighboring house has been attacked by armed men. Should we be worried? That is similar to what has happened in Kampuchea. Vietnam initially sent up to 200,000 troops into Kampuchea. They are only 4 hours from Bangkok. At present, approximately 80,000 well-armed Vietnamese soldiers who are supported by artillery and tanks are close to the Thai border. This is very alarming. We must be prepared to handle this situation.

We want the Vietnamese troops to pull back from the border a certain distance and want the United Nations to come maintain peace in that area. We want Vietnam to withdraw all its forces, and we want free elections held in Kampuchea.

We must do everything we can to reduce the threat confronting us. We will not send troops to fight in Kampuchea. We will fight Vietnam on the international political stage. But at the same time, we are on the alert everywhere along the border.

[Question] How fierce do you think the fighting will be this dry season?

[Answer] Based on the information that we have, Vietnam has moved up tanks and new weapons. It is thought that the fighting will be fiercer than last year. But we aren't sure how many troops Vietnam will employ in the operation or whether it will use artillery. But if they enter Thai territory, our soldiers are ready to expel them. If Kampucheans flee into Thailand, we will provide them temporary shelter. When the fighting stops and the situation returns to normal, we will send them back. International relief organizations have readied clothing, blankets, shelter, food and mobile medical units to handle the situation.

At the same time, since the situation has been like this for the past 4 years, the people living along the border have gotten used to it. Government officials have helped them dig trenches and taken measures so that they can leave their border villages and get clear of the border quickly in order to escape the danger.

[Question] Concerning the fact that we have issued reports saying that Vietnam will send troops to eliminate the Khmer coalition and that we will be directly affected by this, this has resulted in observers feeling that we are afraid of Vietnam since we are not ready for a clash with Vietnam. And the reason that we are not ready is that our combat forces are backward when compared with those of Vietnam. This includes the military's equipment and weapons.

[Answer] You will have to ask the military about that since it is responsible for that. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a role in helping the Ministry of Defense during negotiations for military aid from abroad in order to improve the capabilities of the military and to obtain modern weapons for the military in accord with government targets. We are a developing country. We are limited in how much we can invest in the military. We want the people's standard of living to be good.

Whenever we learn that operations that will affect Thailand are to be launched, we coordinate things closely with the military. The military has assured us that it is ready to handle things if foreign troops cross the border. I want to repeat that this will be the 5th year that we have had to deal with events along the border. We know what to expect, and we are prepared. We can limit the effects to the border area. In Bangkok and other places, tourism, business and trade will continue as usual. Last year can serve as an example. Even though there was fighting in Kampuchea, it did not affect Thailand to the point where people in Bangkok were afraid.

[Question] There have frequently been clashes along the Thai-Kampuchean border, and this has been going on for 5 years now. Some people are now getting tired of this. When is this confrontation with a neighboring country going to end so that we can live in peace?

[Answer] I hope people do not get weary of this because that is just what Vietnam is relying on in order to achieve victory or reach its goals. The Thai government must listen to the views of the people and the mass media. But Vietnam does not have a free press, and the people there do not have an opportunity to express their views. And so they have been able to send a large number of troops to occupy another country. I think that if the Vietnamese people had a chance to express their views freely as in Thailand, the majority would disagree with this action. They would undoubtedly ask why their government and their leaders implemented this policy since it has led to a confrontation with Thailand. We are confronting them on the diplomatic and international political fronts. We are not engaged in a military confrontation. Another disadvantage for them is that they are using military force. We are using our military forces to defend our land, not to invade [another country]. Before people become weary, they should stop and think about this.

At present, many developed countries have cut off economic and financial aid, such as giving loans, to Vietnam and limited their relations with Vietnam to show their dissatisfaction over Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea. And they have told Kampuchea that they will not provide economic aid, or will limit economic contacts, until Vietnam withdraws its troops from Kampuchea. In the United Nations, this was the 5th year in which more than 100 member nations called on Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea. Thus, it's not just Thailand or ASEAN that is standing its ground. The United Nations also agrees with our position.

[Question] Our humanitarian policy has led to a refugee problem. Do you think that our policy of admitting refugees is wrong?

[Answer] There are no Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials along the Thai-Kampuchea border. The refugees simply walk across the border. We get involved only after they enter the country. We have to help the units concerned look after them. We try to have this place as small a burden as possible on the Thai government. That is, we try to obtain help from international organizations and from friendly countries that hold to humanitarian principles in formulating their foreign policy. When refugees cross into Thailand, we receive financial and material aid to help provide relief. Thailand participates in this. If they did not help us, we would probably not allow the refugees to enter. We are a developing country and cannot take care of them. There are still many Thais who are very poor. One of our important policies is to help those Thais who are poor.

Concerning the formulation of a refugee policy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is not directly responsible for this. This must be a government policy. All the government units concerned play a part in formulating the policy. It is the government that is responsible for deciding what should be done. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is just one element.

At present, the aid provided by other countries has declined. The economic situation throughout the world was poor last year. Thus, those countries accepted fewer refugees, and less financial and material aid was provided than in previous years. This year, it is expected that more aid will be provided since the world economy is improving. Besides this, if we cannot send refugees to third countries, the government has stipulated that it will repatriate the refugees to their own country. On a voluntary basis, we have already repatriated approximately 3,000 people. And we have reached agreements with the countries concerned. We have reached an agreement with the Lao government. The UNHCR is providing help. When the Khmer coalition government is stronger, the Kampuchean refugees in Thailand will return to their country. So many have returned voluntarily that we have closed some refugee camps. At present, only two-three large camps still remain. Previously, there were more than 10 camps.

[Question] Concerning the Indochinese refugees, which country--Laos, Kampuchea or Vietnam--presents the greatest problem for us, such as in negotiating the repatriation of the refugees?

[Answer] They are all about equal. Some Lao refugees have been here 3-4 years. Third countries have been unwilling to take them. The only question left is whether they will be able to return to their country. But before they return, they want to be sure that they and their families will not be in danger. Concerning this, we, along with the UNHCR, are holding negotiations to ensure their safety after they return. As for the Kampuchean refugees, because there is still periodic fighting there, refugees still come here. When the situation quiets down, they return. The number of Kampuchean refugees has declined greatly.

If the Khmer coalition expands its influence in Kampuchea, these refugees will probably return [to Kampuchea].

As for Vietnamese refugees, there are very few refugees here. They come here by sea. Usually, they are quickly accepted by third countries. At present, there are fewer than 1,000 Vietnamese refugees in Thailand.

[Question] At present, how many Indochinese refugees are left in Thailand?

[Answer] There are about 60,000 Lao refugees, 60,000 Kampuchean refugees and 2,000 [sic] Vietnamese refugees.

We have sent approximately 500,000 refugees to third countries. At present there are somewhat over 100,000 left.

[Question] During the coming dry season, when violent fighting is expected, how many refugees do you think will flee here?

[Answer] We will grant these refugees temporary sanctuary only. When the situation calms down, we will send them back. It has been almost 2 years now since any Lao or Kampuchean refugees fled here, except in unavoidable cases.

[Question] [What about] the Vietnamese refugees who came here at the time of Dien Bien Phu and who have settled down here?

[Answer] These first refugees are under the control of the Internal Security Operations Command and the Ministry of Interior. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a role only in negotiating with Vietnam to get Vietnam to take back its citizens. At present, these negotiations have come to a halt since Vietnam refuses to discuss this issue. An important obstacle that prevents us from having good relations with Vietnam is the situation in Kampuchea. If we can find a way to solve the Kampuchean problem, that is, if Vietnam withdraws its troops, relations between Thailand and Vietnam will improve. And the talks on repatriating those first Vietnamese refugees will begin again.

[Question] Will the children of these refugees be willing to return?

[Answer] The ISOC and the Ministry of Interior must look into the matter. These people came here as refugees and that is still their status. They do not have Thai identification cards since they are the descendents of refugees. We do not consider them to be Thais. At present, there are about 40,000 such people. Some have already returned [to Vietnam]. This occurred as a result of the negotiations in Rangoon. But then the Vietnam War broke out. The Vietnamese government said that because of the war, they could not take back any more.

[Question] Did you say that the number of Vietnamese refugees who came here recently is approximately 2,000?

[Answer] Yes. Those who came here by boat do not pose a problem.

[Question] Concerning the figure of 40,000 "first-generation" refugees, when was that figure derived?

[Answer] That is the number of refugees left after we repatriated some of the refugees prior to 1964.

11943

CSO: 4207/78

THAILAND

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC VIEWS OF STUDENTS POLLED

Bangkok PATINYA in Thai 6 Feb 84 pp 4, 5

[Letters column]

[Text] Phuket Teachers' College
16 January 1983

To: The editor of PATINYA

I read PATINYA regularly and feel that PATINYA has a clear line in building a secure democracy with the king at the head. I am in total agreement with the line espoused by PATINYA. Thus, I would like to submit data that I feel to be of great benefit so that PATINYA can serve as the intermediary in informing people throughout the country about the views of students concerning the present situation.

I took the "Mobile Southerners Rom Klao" training course given by the Phuket Internal Security Operations Command at the Phuket Teachers' Training College on 11-13 January 1984. Attending the course were 185 students from eight institutions. The scholars who gave the lectures took a survey of those attending the course before beginning the course. As for the results of the survey, 172 people returned the questionnaire (13 either filled out the questionnaire incorrectly or did not return it).

Question 1: Who is responsible for the present poverty and suffering?

A. Part of the poverty, suffering and economic decline in Thailand stems from the economic turmoil in the world. However, the major problem is that the government lacks stability and resoluteness. The things that it does are done for the benefit and security of the government rather than for the benefit and well-being of the people in general.

B. The poverty, suffering and economic decline in Thailand stems mainly from the economic turmoil in the world. The Thai government cannot solve these problems by itself no matter how hard it tries.

The result: 122 students, or 70.93 percent, chose "A"; 50 students, or 29.07 percent, chose "B."

Question 2. In your view, which of the following views on the political parties in Thailand is closest to the truth?

A. In general, the political parties in Thailand are composed of good people with ideals who have joined together to become MPs or ministers in order to have a chance to serve the people and eliminate poverty and injustice for the well-being of the majority and the development of the country.

B. In general, the political parties in Thailand are the representatives of large, influential interest groups such as the textile industry, the soft drink industry, the liquor and beer distilleries, timber and ore smugglers, gamblers, local influential people, the finance companies and banks and others. These groups all support the formation of political parties in order to vie for the position of MP so that they can become a minister, or part of the government, in order to protect their interests or make profits for themselves or their friends in order to increase their wealth and influence.

The result: 59 students, or 34.3 percent, chose "A"; 113 students, or 65.7 percent chose "B."

Question 3. In your view, in general, how good have the elected MPs been?

A. Very bad; B. bad; C. fair; D. good; E. Very good.

The result: 4 students, or 2.32 percent, chose "A"; 8 students, or 4.65 percent, chose "B"; 135, or 78.49 percent, chose "C"; 24, or 13.95 percent, chose "D"; and 1, or 0.59 percent, chose "E."

Question 4. In present military circles, there are two groups who hold conflicting points of view. Which group do you agree with the most?

A. Soldiers should have direct political power because, in general, the political parties and MPs are the tools of the capitalists and corrupt interest groups that seek power and profits for themselves and their cronies. Thus, it is essential that the soldiers, who are more honest and more sincere toward the country, take control and protect the country.

B. If the military gains political power, it will get involved with the merchants and the corrupt and influential interest groups. This will result in these people all helping each other to make profits without any fear of the law and allow the corrupt influences to spread throughout the military. The military will split apart. Thus, the best thing is for the military to support the political parties and people

to enable them to play a real part in solving the country's problems in a democratic way. The soldiers should quickly reduce their political role and carry out their military duties efficiently.

The results: 36 students, or 20.93 percent, chose "A"; 136, or 79.07 percent, chose "B."

Question 5: For more than 10 years now, Thailand has been experiencing various disorders. There is a lack of political stability, things have degenerated, and there is great economic and social injustice. These problems must be solved in a resolute and correct manner if our country is to make real progress. There are three opinions on how to solve these basic problems. Of these three, which do you agree with the most?

A. The military must be the primary group in solving these problems since the military has more power, it is more resolute, patriotic and pure, and it is more prepared to exert pressure for change than the other forces in Thai society.

B. It must be the political parties since the political parties are the representatives of the people.

C. The honest people should join together to solve the problems.

The result: 70 students, or 40.69 percent, chose "A"; 58, or 33.72 percent, chose "B"; and 44, or 25.59 percent, chose "C."

Based on the data collected from the 172 students from eight institutions, it can be seen that [they felt] that the present economic problems that are causing hardships for the people are the result of government instability. Concerning the political parties, the students felt that these were large and influential interest groups. As for the quality of the MPs, most felt that the MPs were just "fair." As for the soldiers, the students wanted them to reduce their political role and carry out their military role resolutely. As for the best way to solve the problems, 102 of the students, or 59.31 percent, felt that the honest political parties and people should join together to solve the problems. Only 70 of the students, or 40.19 percent, wanted the military to be the primary element in solving the problems.

I feel that to put an end to the troubles and hardships of the people, we must have a stable democratic government. In the present situation, since the political parties are still controlled by the large and influential interest groups and are not idealistic groups that are working sincerely to solve the country's present problems, I feel that there is only one way to solve the country's present problems. That is, legislative power must be resolutely separated from executive power. The prime minister must be directly elected by the people. The MPs must have legislative duties only; they must not have administrative duties. This will mean that both the legislators and the administrators will have a broad base of support among the people. They will not be supported just

by a few interest groups. The government will be stable and will not have to fear hidden powers since the people of the country will protect the prime minister whom they elected.

I hope that PATINYA will publish the data that I have sent so that the people of the country are informed of this. I hope that PATINYA continues to fight for a secure democracy with the king at the head, which is what the majority of the people in the country want. I and the other students in Phuket Province have constantly given our support.

Sincerely,

Mr Somsak Wongsawat

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CSO: 4207/78

BANGKOK WORLD COMMENTS ON HAN'S RESIGNATION

BK141037 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 14 Mar 84 p 6

[Commentary by Wira Prathipchaikun: "It's No Surprise That Han Quit"]

[Text] General Han Linanon's announcement to call it quits from the army came as no surprise considering the unfortunate events that have surrounded him over the past several months. Within just a few months' time, he met with two humiliating setbacks in his military career. First he was transferred from the powerful post as commanding general of the southern-based Fourth Army Region to Bangkok as chief of the staff officers of the Supreme Commander--a job widely regarded as inactive. No sooner had he settled down rather bitterly to this assignment, the second blow struck. This time he was moved to an even more inactive seat in the Office of the Defence Permanent Secretary.

The two transfers were regarded as rather unusual for such a highly competent and successful field commander and strategist as General Han. The two postings provided him with little opportunity to use his skills and expertise. One may argue--as one army general put it the other day--that a man of high competence and resourcefulness can always be useful to the country wherever he is. That may be true. But wouldn't it be more logical, wiser and more productive to put a man in a job that suits his ability?

General Han has proved himself a fine army officer as any southerner can readily testify. The decline of communist insurgency and banditry and the emergence of a new sense of public security in the region long beset with troubles are enough evidence of his achievement.

Yet he has fared poorly as a fine subordinate to superiors. He has been too outspoken and too critical, particularly in controversial political issues that eventually landed him in direct conflict with the army establishment.

Take, for example, his repeated urgings for the public to oppose attempts to amend the Constitution so that government officials can simultaneously hold political portfolios. His uncompromising attitude on this issue has made him look like an odd man out in the whole army establishment. While he held forth, his contemporaries were content to keep their minds to themselves and to stick to routine duties.

Some critics may say he lacks the survival instinct--that is to say the ability to adapt and bend with the political wind. General Han's independence of thought and outspokenness have no room in an establishment where discipline and unquestionable obedience take priority, and any deviation from the traditional norm is intolerable and unacceptable.

Not only was his relationship with the powers-that-be in the military establishment icy cold. As commander of the Fourth Army Region, he earned no liking from his Malaysian counterpart for his bluntness and lack of diplomacy in dealing with the thorny banditry problem in the predominantly-Muslim southern provinces. Unlike the boys in the foreign service who often take diplomatic niceties to heart, General Han publicly criticized Malaysia for harbouring some bandits and demanded a quid pro quo if Thailand were to crack down on guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaya.

His premature exit from the army--six months ahead of his retirement in October--will save him from more frustrations in his doomed career. Though he may lack support in the army, he certainly has a large following of admirers, particularly in the South. As Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon put it briefly the other day, General Han should enter politics and could become a good politician. It's never too late to begin a new life in politics at 60. After all, are not most successful politicians over 60?

CSO: 4200/598

THAILAND

GENERAL DESCRIBES MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST CORRUPT ELEMENTS, DRUGS

Bangkok SENASAN in Thai Dec 83 pp 18-24

[Statement by Major General Narutdon Detpradiyut to the mass media at the Army Conference Hall on 21 November 1983: "The Surasi Force"]

[Text] The army formed the Surasi Force in order to supervise and facilitate operations in solving the problems and eliminating the war factors and to support the operations of state officials so that there is stability, particularly in upholding the law. This is being done for the happiness and well-being of the people in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province.

These forces have scored very satisfying achievements. It is felt that something should be said about their background and the results of their activities so that the people, the masters of the country, know the truth about this. Thus, I have invited you, who are members of the mass media, here to inform you about this so that you can report the facts to the people. I have invited Major General Somkhit Chongphayuha, the commander of the 9th Infantry Division and the person to whom the army and the First Army Area have made responsible for the Surasi Force, to speak to you today, too.

Before I discuss the Surasi Force, I would like to tell you about the army's intentions, which the RTA CINC announced as follows:

The Intentions of the Army

The army will stand on the side of the people and will fight to increase individual freedoms and the sovereignty of the masses. It will fight against what is wrong and against political, economic and social injustice, which are war factors and sources of the communist problem that endanger the security of the institutions of nation, religion and monarchy. The army will do this in order to build a democratic system with the king at the head in accord with the wishes of the Thai people.

The Surasi Force

At present, there are certain groups that are seeking profits and that engage in activities that create war factors. This will lead to great

disorder for the people in the localities and the state units responsible.

In particular, Thap Sakae District and the area along the border between Thap Sakae and Bang Saphan districts in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province are very dangerous areas where such things have taken place. For example:

Influential people use dark powers to control the people. There is a problems with smuggled goods such as timber, weapons, ore and other goods. And there is the communist terrorist problem.

As a result of these problems, the people are experiencing hardships, they are oppressed and exploited and their freedoms have been threatened in various ways. The state officials lack unity in carrying out the work. Specific areas of control have been formed in several areas, and some officials cannot enter these areas. Another important problem is the probelm of foreign armed forces. The influential interest groups have supported these groups by inducing them to serve as protective forces in carrying on illegal activities. This has led to disputes and the use of force, which is a violation of [Thai] sovereignty. This has every indication of becoming a very serious border problem, which will affect the security of the state if it is not solved quickly.

To carry out things in line with the government's policy and in accord with the army's intention of standing on the side of the people and fighting to increase individual freedoms and expand sovereignty, the army will fight to increase individual freedoms and expand the sovereignty of the masses. It will fight against what is wrong and against political, economic and social injustice, which are war factors and sources of the communit problem that are weakening the security of the institutions of nation, religion and monarchy. The army will do this in order to build a democratic system with the king at the head in accord with the wishes of the Thai people.

Thus, the army sent thahan phran irregulars to carry on operations to supervise and facilitate the things being done to solve the problems. In order to solve the probelms, the important this is to eliminate the war factors as quickly as possible for the well-being of the people who live in the area. Later on, it formed the Surasi Force in order to support the activities of the state officials in the area in order to foster stability and efficiency. The important thing is to make the laws effective.

The commander of the Surasi Force is Major General Somkhit Chongphayuha, the commander of the 9th Infantry Division. As for the main forces, the goal is to use the forces stationed in the localities, such as the civil official, police and various volunteers, in various forms. In the next stage, all aspects of the localities will be revived and developed after the operations.

In carrying on activities, the Surasi Force must be very careful since the problems and conflicts that have arisen are very delicate matters that could turn into other problems such as international problems, problems among the masses and conflicts between state officials arising from differences of opinion or issues concerning various interests. To solve these problems, the army has entrusted the Surasi Force with a clear policy. It is to carry out its duties honestly and with lofty ideals.

It is essential that the Surasi Force complete the tasks in its area of responsibility and hit the targets as quickly as possible in order to avoid prolonging things, which is the hope of the enemy. Social injustice and oppression in the localities must be resolutely eliminated, and safety must be ensured for the lives and property of the people. The people must be encouraged to participate more in solving the local problems through proper guidance. Steps must be taken to ensure that the people really understand the difference between the real democratic movement and the movement of the opposition, which hides behind the word "democracy."

The Surasi Force has used the principles of political science and law in solving problems and restoring the position of the people in the localities. This has generated more order. People are no longer threatened or oppressed by the influential people. What is important is providing correct information to the people about democracy and trying to win the masses away from the enemy to our side permanently.

It is well known that communist terrorists are still carrying on small-group activities in Military Region 1, Region 1 ISOC, particularly in the western part of the country's central region. They talk with and mobilize people, gather information and supplies and seek to make profits in cooperation with the influential politicians and capitalists. Even though Civil-Police-Military Unit 11 has made a great effort to get the "participants in national development" in the Kanchanaburi area to enter the warm embrace of the government--succeeding twice, on 17 and 26 August 1983, with the result that no activities have been carried on there--the communist terrorists are still carrying on some operations in Suan Phung Subdistrict, Bak Tho District, Ratchaburi Province, and in Khao Yoi District and Nong Yaplong Subdistrict in Phetchaburi Province. In Prachuap Khiri Khan, they have been active in Kui Buri and Muang districts. If this is a communist problem, things will deteriorate rapidly. As for the foreign forces in the area opposite the Singkhon Checkpoint and the Song Kalon Pass, they are still enemies of the Communist Party of Thailand. They profit from [smuggling] timber, ore, cattle and buffalos into Thailand and smuggling out narcotics.

The problems that presently pose a threat to the peace and security of the country include:

Certain politicians, capitalists, dark influences and gangsters, who use the powers of officials who seek to make profits, have become very wealthy by felling trees and destroying the forests, trading in smuggled ore and destroying the natural resources, trafficking in narcotics and selling weapons to foreign interest groups along the border. This has resulted in great economic losses. People have been squeezed and oppressed. And this has led to social injustice, with these people acting as if their power exceeds that of the state apparatus.

The army felt that it was time to help the people who were suffering before it is too late. Thahan phran irregulars were sent to carry on operations in January 1983. They met resistance from various influential groups and from various armed forces. And they were viciously maligned in an attempt to have them withdrawn.

Thus, the army decided to use main combat forces to solve the problems that were generating revolutionary war factors in the western part of the central region. On 5 October 1983, the commander of the 9th Infantry Division was entrusted with the task of forming the Surasi Force in accord with the policy of the RTA CINC.

The task of the Surasi Force is to prevent foreign armed forces from violating Thailand's territorial sovereignty and waging a struggle to defeat the communists by continually using the principle of "politics leads the military." In particular, this is the principle that must be used to eliminate the revolutionary war factors. This includes suppressing the illegal activities of the capitalists, politicians and government officials who use their influence and dark powers to profit personally and to oppress, squeeze and bully the honest people. This must be done quickly in those areas assigned to the Surasi Force.

The Surasi Force is composed of civil, police and military forces. There is both a headquarters and an operations section. The force has been established in an economical manner, but there are sufficient forces to fulfill the tasks assigned by the commander.

The headquarters sector: The commander of the 9th Infantry Division is the commander of the Surasi Force. The governor of Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, the commissioner of the Provincial 3 and the Phetchaburi forestry officer serve as advisors. The important officials serving with the Surasi Force include officials from the forestry, customs and mineral resources departments, the commissioner's office of the provincial police, the Suppression Division, and the forestry and marine police divisions. There is an administrative section and a special affairs section.

The support sector: This includes forces from the air force and an army air operations team. The forces are equipped with airplanes and helicopters and speedboats from the Marine Police Division and the Customs Department.

These forces can operate effectively. And if necessary, they can immediately request support from superior and lateral units.

The policy of the Surasi Force clearly states that legal and political science measures will be used to reduce the suffering of the people stemming from oppression and exploitation by the influential groups, interest groups, dark powers and gangsters. Things will be closely coordinated with other government sectors, and ideas will be solicited from all the officials in the Surasi Force. In carrying out the tasks, the officials must do things in strict accord with the country's laws. They must carry out the tasks resolutely based on what is correct, honest and just and uphold the intentions of the army with their lives.

Concerning operations to block the foreign armed forces, to date, our sovereignty has not been violated, but foreign forces are located along the border in Burma.

The communist terrorists will probably engage in guerrilla-type activities again using small numbers of men. They will probably be active in the Khao Chao area in Pranburi District. It is thought that the large base of the communist terrorists, with about 500 men, is at Khlong Ihonong in Burma opposite the Yang Chum Dam in Phatkham Commune, Kui Buri District, which is a large valley. However, there are still communist terrorists in the areas where the influential merchants and capitalists are felling trees. This confirms that the communist terrorists are cooperating with the influential capitalists in order to maintain their interests rather than to preserve the party's ideals like other members in Burma.

Concerning the revolutionary war factors, the influential groups, interest groups, dark powers, gunmen and gangsters are involved in felling trees and in trading smuggled goods, narcotics and weapons. All of these things are conducted widespread throughout the country. These things are considered to be very dangerous and to have a great effect on the security of the country.

Summary of the Operations of the Surasi Force to Date

Forest destruction: Before the army sent thahan phran irregulars to reduce the war factors and bring about justice, there were 14 national forest preserves in Prachuap Khiri Khan with a total area of 1,748,000 rai, or 2,800 square kilometers. At present, only 25 percent of this is left. There has been widespread destruction of the forests. In particular, trees in Burma have been felled, processed and brought into Thailand. This can be seen from the fact that there are more than 20 sawmills, with each one costing several million baht. These have been built by Thai capitalists, MPs, government officials, doctors, police officials, kamnans and village headmen. They are located 2-10 kilometers from the border all the way from the Dan Singkhon Pass to the Song Kalon Pass in Muong District in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province.

On 17 August 1983, before the Surasi Force began carrying on operations, the forest unit and the district officer of Kui Buri District [conducted operations in] the Kui Buri forest and discovered illegal timber felling operations underway near Ban Yang Yisip Ton in Hat Kham Commune. They arrested 11 suspects and seized three two trucks, two tractors, one shotguns, three chainsaws, nine logs, three logging trucks and 400 scrap logs that could not be removed. The matter was turned over to investigation officials for further handling of the case. But things were done very slowly. The commander of the Surasi Force had the officials concerned take quick action in accord with the law. At present, the investigation has almost been completed. Next week, experts concerning concessionary zones, timber zones and timber [will be brought in].

During the investigation conducted by the Surasi Force on 12-13 October 1983 concerning this timber and the communist terrorist group of Comrade Thong, 247 logs were found in the Yang Yisip Ton area near the Thai Yannon Pass. Most of these were rubber, hopea and ormosia trees. They were cut near Ban Ang Hin at the head of the road to Ban Yang Yisip ton. A skull and bones symbol and a no-entry sign were posted there and claimed that [the logs] belonged to the Thai [People's] Liberation Armed Forces. If this is true, it shows that the influential merchants and capitalists are cooperating with the communist terrorists in destroying the nation. The capitalists provide the communist terrorists with food and weapons while the communist terrorists protect the interests of the capitalists. Or perhaps the influential capitalists are just claiming that communist terrorists are involved in order to threaten the honest officials and keep them from interfering with their activities, which have been going on everywhere for a long time.

Concerning this, timber has been cut as part of the hardwood project in the Kui Buri "K.KH." 3 area. This is a concessionary forest. There are 10 sections, with three plots per section, that belong to the Prachuap Khiri Khan Company. In 1983, it received permission to cut trees in Section 4 to the southwest of the Yang Chum Dam. But the company carried on operations in Section 5 north of the dam, for which it had not received permission. Even though this is in the concessionary zone, the trees were taken from a section at a 90 degree angle and 12 kilometers away from the correct section. Officials claimed that they had gotten lost in the jungle even though they had a compass. They claimed that the company had not done anything wrong and that periodic inspections had been made. It is worth noting that villagers and thanhan phran irregulars who have not even completed Grade 4 do not get lost in the jungle.

Besides this, on 17 October 1983, 20 logs were seized in Bang Saphan Noi District. On 29 October 1983, approximately 300 pieces of timber resembling railroad ties were found in Chaikasem Commune, Bang Saphan District. The Surasi Force sent officials to inspect things and confiscated 187 logs on 11 November 1983.

Narcotics: The Surasi Force is investigating narcotics trafficking in the area. Marihuana has been found in several areas. In particular, in Bang Saphan Noi District, 36 rai planted in marihuana have been destroyed. Operations are being carried on continuously.

Smuggled goods: Because the coastline of Prachuap Khiri Khan and Phetchaburi provinces is more than 500 kilometers long, smuggled goods can be brought in at many places, such as at Bang Boet and Tham Thong Rongdo in Chumphon Province and Bang Saphan, Thap Sakeo, Ao Noi 300 Yot, Pranburi and Ban Laem in Prachuap Khiri Khan. The Surasi Force is monitoring things closely. If people cannot bring things in here, they may switch to Bang Pakong in Chonburi Province or Samut Prakan Province.

Gunmen and gangsters: On 25 October 1983, the Surasi Force arrested two men, Mr Suchin and Mr Lek, and sent them to the provincial police station in Kui Buri District on charges of carrying weapons in public without permission. At present, the force is continuing to carry on operations. The Surasi Force has ordered its men to arrest such people and turn them over to the police for further handling of the case. The officials concerned have received good cooperation from higher-echelon units.

As for the influence of these gunmen, the Surasi Force feels that this is an important factor that must be eliminated quickly.

Concerning helping the people: The Surasi Force has received many requests from the people and has sent the officials concerned to provide help each time.

Whenever the Surasi Force receives an appeal for help, it does its utmost to provide help to ensure that the person receives justice. It provides direct support by ensuring that the officials are free to solve the problems without having to fear any influence. The Surasi Force held a conference and put forth its first policy on 5 October 1983. There are weekly conferences for officials. Besides this, regular visits are paid to the units, and things are closely coordinated with fellow units.

Concerning public relations activities, cooperation has been received from Prachuap Khiri Khan Province and from various radio stations such as the radio station of Air Command 53, the four radio stations of the First Army Area, the 1st Division Radio Network and the radio station of the Public Relations Department. The mass media has also cooperated. The Surasi force has received good support and cooperation from the public and private sectors, particularly Prachuap Khiri Khan Province and Air Command 53.

Summary

In short, there are two things that threaten the security of the country:

[1.] The foreign armed forces and the communist terrorists in the area.

[2.] The war factors in the area, upholding the laws and the legal sectors: Things are not efficient, and there is a lack of close coordination between the state officials who are responsible for upholding the laws. The legal sectors have been used to gain influence and create injustices. The influential groups and dark powers control the economy and monopolize things, and they have political power. There are influential people who are above the law; the law cannot touch them. Illegal activities are carried on widespreadly, with the influential groups providing protection. Gunmen and war weapons are common throughout the area. Most of the people are poor. Their incomes are low, and they lack good services and educational [facilities].

If the behaviors that have led to these threats to national security are divided by type, three types can be distinguished:

1. The influential merchants and capitalists have formed a united front with the communist terrorists and the foreign armed forces.

2. [People have] built up influence and have economic and political control.

3. The influential groups have carried on illegal activities. The important illegal activities include:

Felling trees.

Gathering together gunmen and trafficking in weapons.

Producing and selling narcotics.

Trafficking in smuggled goods.

Of these illegal activities, the one that threatens national security the most is the destruction of the forests since this causes great damage to the country's resources, with the government benefiting very little. This amounts to destroying a factor that supports agriculture and the lives of the people. It destroys the headwater areas. Besides this, it destroys an important energy source of the country. The destruction of the forests also threatens other things as well. Only about 25 percent of the forests are left.

Because of all this, it is essential to eliminate these behaviors. The following targets and objectives should be set:

1. To smash the armed forces and terrorists and the influential gunmen as quickly as possible.

2. To eliminate the war factors and develop democracy--with the three secondary targets being to prevent crime, suppress the criminals and make the legal sectors more efficient.

Operations will be carried on in accord with these objectives. The Surasi Force has implemented the following policy, which is in line with the policy of the supreme commander, RTA CINC and director of communist suppression activities:

To do things in accord with legal and political science principles and, in particular, Policy 66/1980.

To eliminate the war factors as quickly as possible, to carry on suppression activities and to have the legal sectors responsible do things in accord with the laws in the priority areas in close cooperation with each other.

11943

CSO: 4207/84

THAILAND

RTAF WANTS ONLY F16 A100; J79 CALLED INADEQUATE

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Article: "RTAF Confirms That It Wants the F16 A100"]

[Text] The United States proposed selling F16 J79 aircraft to Thailand, but the royal Thai Air Force has said that it wants the F16 A100 model. The J79 model is a model with low performance, and no country uses it. The A7D is an attack aircraft. Such aircraft were recently shot down by Syria.

A report from a high-level news source in the RTAF informed SIAM RAT about the purchase of F16 A100 aircraft. It said that the United States government has proposed selling F16 J79 aircraft to Thailand and set a price for the aircraft. But the RTAF still wants the F16 A100 model since the J79 model has low performance, and no country uses this aircraft.

Comparing the two aircraft, the F16 A100 uses a Pratt and Whitney F-100 PW-100 turbofan engine that has a thrust of approximately 25,000 pounds. The F16 J79 uses a General Electric J79 engine. This is a turbojet engine that is used in the F4 Phantom. It has a thrust of 18,000 pounds.

"Its performance cannot compare with that of the F16 A100. The F16 A100 can fight in all weather conditions. It can be used as an interceptor or attack aircraft. It is very good in both roles," said the news source. And he added that the difference in price between the F16 A100 and the F16 J79 is approximately \$3 million. The F16 A100 by itself costs approximately \$16 million. After other equipment is added on, the cost is approximately \$30 million.

Concerning the latest report that U.S. officials have proposed selling A7D aircraft instead of F16 A100 aircraft so that Vietnam cannot use this as an excuse to request aid from the Soviet Union, the news source said that the A7D aircraft is an attack aircraft only. It can be used only against ground targets and cannot be used for aerial combat. But the F16 A100 can be used as both a fighter and an attack aircraft.

"The A7D and the F16 are different types of aircraft. We once considered this aircraft. But we are no longer interested in it," said the news source. And he added that the A7D is an old aircraft and would have to be upgraded before it could be used. As an attack aircraft, it once played a great role in the Vietnam War. Recently, of the two aircraft shot down by Syria in Lebanon, one was an A6 and the other was an A7D.

The news source also said that concerning the A7D, very few are used today. It is used only by the U.S. Navy and by U.S. air national guard units. However, fewer than 100 of these aircraft are in operation.

"Comparing combat strength, I think that this would result in Vietnam asking the Soviet Union for modern aircraft. I think that this would be a major reason."

11943

CSO: 4207/78

THAILAND

FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIAL ASSESSES PROSPECTS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25, 26 Jan 84

[Interview with Mr Manatphat Chuto, the director-general of the Economics Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Wachira Saloeiyakanon: "Thailand's Foreign Trade; date and place not specified]

[25 Jan 84, p 3]

[Text] [Question] What are the prospects for rice exports and what are the trends?

[Answer] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs feels that the prospects are very bright this year since yields in other countries did not hit the targets. Besides this, we have stepped up our efforts to promote exports. The Ministry of Commerce has joined with other ministries in stepping up these efforts. Activities have not been restricted to the regular markets. We are trying to open new markets in many other places. Many countries have informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of their interest in purchasing rice from us. This includes Latin American countries, too. Actually, in my view, the rice export problem does not depend on market demand. Last year, we exported the most rice ever. But prices were not good. Prices improved only toward the end of the year. As for this year, I think that world market prices will be better. As far as I know, at present, prices are around \$290-300 per ton. This is much better than last year. Considering the amount that we exported last year, since prices are good, we will earn more than last year. And we think that things look quite bright this year. We cannot miss this opportunity. We must make an effort. We produce some types of rice, such as glutinous rice, in large quantities. We should export greater amounts. I think that we should actively promote this type of trade and not just be content with our present customers. We should also promote other types of trade, of which there are many.

[Question] Can you tell us what other markets, besides our regular markets, we can export goods to?

[Answer] African countries are buying more from us. And there are several countries that have just purchased rice from us for the first time. Latin American countries that have already made purchases include Brazil and Mexico. Normally, these countries purchase rice from the United States. The countries in that region get almost all of their agricultural products from the United States. But last year the United States reduced the area under cultivation. And the droughts there resulted in yields dropping 50 percent. That is, where they once produced 220 million tons, [last year] they produced only 130 million tons. That is a great difference. Also, Mexico seems to be trying to purchase things elsewhere and not rely on just one production source. Thus, Mexico has been looking for possibilities in other countries. Thailand is a developing country that exports food. We should have a good chance. We cannot let things proceed naturally. We must make an effort, and everyone must cooperate, including the public and private sectors. The minister of commerce has said that he is ready to negotiate and that he is prepared to let private-sector companies be exporters, too. This shows the cooperation between the public and private sectors.

[Question] Do you have any estimates about how great the drop in the world rice yield will be this year?

[Answer] Altogether, the decline will not be very great. But don't forget that the world population is increasing. Thailand's population has risen to 50 million. Thus, it is expected that demand will increase. But the problem that many countries have encountered in trying to purchase rice from us is that they don't have money to pay us immediately. The financial problem is something that will have to be discussed.

[Question] Concerning the African market, how much have we expanded this market with respect to the rice market?

[Answer] The prospects are good. But they don't have much cash. But there is a demand there. Many countries there do not want just rice. They want other foods, too. This provides a good opportunity for our other agricultural products. Our exchange of goods with the African countries should increase continually. And [exchanges] with Latin America will increase.

[26 Jan 84, p 3]

[Text] [Question] Is the present target of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Africa or Latin America?

[Answer] We have to study the potential of each country. That is, in some countries, there is demand. But how great is their purchasing power? [That's the question.] We feel that the most important markets are the ASEAN markets. We should promote trade [with these markets]. We should make things more free.

[Question] Concerning the ASEAN markets, what are the goods that we can trade with each other?

[Answer] There are many goods. There is a great need for each other's goods. We should promote mutual trade. Actually, the trend has been for an increase in trade. But we should take steps to increase it even more. At present, we enjoy a trade surplus with all the countries. As for future trends in ASEAN, we should work to improve things even more.

[Question] Concerning those countries that really want to make purchases but that do not have cash, is there any way to solve this problem?

[Answer] At present, new developments are taking place on the international trade front. These are not ordinary trade activities. It is like bartering goods. This is referred to as "counter trade," that is, bartering of goods. We are engaged in this to a limited extent. For example, we are exchanging rice and other agricultural products for fertilizer from Romania and South Korea. However, the international financial institutions should play a larger role. Foreign commercial banks should play a larger role in this. That is, they should support this. This concerns the mutual credit system. Even though more than two parties may be involved, the difficult problem is that there is not much flexibility when we engage in bartering. Also, concerning such trade, some private individuals do not want to purchase things. They cannot find a trading partner to engage in bartering. Our policy states that this is free trade. The most important thing is that we want to achieve economic results. We want exports to earn revenues and want this to be one of the top five in the GNP. Whether we can achieve this depends on export prices. If we can succeed in this, the income earned should be distributed to the producers, that is, the farmers in the rural areas. And at present, things are better. But we still have a lot to do to improve things even more. One thing that I would like to ask people to do is to follow the news about the economic activities and the activities on the world market and the markets in neighboring countries. At present, whenever our farmers see that prices are good for some crop, they rush to grow that crop. This leads to surpluses and to market restraints.

[Question] Concerning the attempt to have the third institution provide help, what stage has this reached?

[Question] According to the figures, it's not Thailand; it's an international matter. The international financial institutions, or the foreign commercial banks, which are large banks, have a great role to play in this. We should study this carefully since it may not always be possible to avoid this. For example, Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union do not have enough money to engage in this freely. The problem that has arisen is that the debts are never repaid. But what is particularly important is that, while we already have markets for our products, we should not become complacent. We should do everything in a proper way to maintain our position.

BANGKOK POST COMMENTS ON BURMESE INCURSION

BK140123 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Mar 84 p 4

[Editorial: "We Want No Part of Someone Else's War"]

[Text] Making a strong diplomatic representation to the Burmese Government was the very least that the Thai Government could do following Monday's border incursion by Burmese troops which cost the lives of two of our Border Patrol policemen. Although the decision to cross into Thai territory and engage our forces in combat was probably taken at the local field commander level and not officially sanctioned by the government in Rangoon, the point has to be made that our borders are sacrosanct and cannot be violated at will by anyone seeking to gain a short-term objective.

The Rangoon Government must accept responsibility for actions taken by its soldiers while engaged in an internal conflict that has nothing whatsoever to do with Thailand. In addition to the intrusion into our territory, the Burmese authorities must also bear the blame for the casualties and damage caused by frequent barrages of artillery shells fired across the border into Thai territory.

As well as tendering an official apology, the Burmese Government should also pay restitution to the families of the two Thai Border Patrol policemen who were killed by Burmese forces in the attack and provide a guarantee that there will be no further incursions or shelling incidents which jeopardize the lives and livelihoods of Thai citizens.

Suppression operations mounted by the Burmese authorities against the Karens or any other dissident faction within the Union of Burma are of no concern to Thailand and our authorities are not seeking to influence or interfere in any way with the means used by the Burmese Government to achieve its desired ends. We look for no quarrel with Rangoon and trust that the message conveyed by the Foreign Ministry to Rangoon's ambassador will be heard loud and clear where it counts in the Burmese capital and achieve a positive result.

When friends fall out they can either agree to a speedy diplomatic resolution of their problems or watch a deterioration of relations take place. Only our enemies would want to see an erosion of the goodwill that underpins our relations with Burma and they must not be allowed to exploit Monday's incident to serve their own purposes. Instead we trust that common sense and mutual self-interest will prevail, an apology and restitution be tendered and traditionally friendly relations restored.

THAILAND

EXPLOSION AT KMT LEADER'S CHIANG MAI HOME

BK120127 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Chiang Mai--A huge explosion felt up to a kilometre away last night ripped apart a house of a senior Kuomintang (KMT) commander while a secret "political" meeting was underway, senior government sources said.

The explosion inside a compound occupied by the KMT's 93d Division Commander Gen Lao Lee left an unknown number of persons dead. At least 20 people, some of them KMT members, were admitted to hospitals in the city, officials said.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, told the BANGKOK POST that the meeting and the explosion were "politically-motivated." Two Chinese Haws were immediately apprehended by police patrols who rushed to the scene of the blast on Chetuphon Road.

General Lao Lee himself was not believed to have been present, officials said.

At press time, neither the type of explosive nor the actual cause of the massive blast was known. Officers at the scene said they believed people in the house might have been literally torn apart in the blast.

A senior provincial official told the POST that a secret KMT meeting at Gen Lao Lee's house was underway when the explosion occurred.

Among identifiable items found in the rubble were photographs of groups of unidentified soldiers undergoing military training, and of tanks and weapons.

The explosion left a crater two metres deep and six metres wide in the lawn in front of the general's house.

Police identified the arrested Chinese Haws as Sang Sae Yang (20) and Kunglu Sae Lee (30). Both were detained at Mae Ping police station and were undergoing interrogation.

The injured included KMT members believed to be illegal aliens, and they were immediately booked and put under guard for illegal entry into the country, police reported.

Following the blast, police moved quickly to seal off the area to keep it clean for teams of investigators who were to begin scouring the area at first light this morning in a search for more explosives and war weapons.

The KMT's 93d Division under Gen Lao Lee controls about 700 families of Chinese nationalist civilians in Tham Ngop of Fang District.

The group was given permission several years ago to remain in Thailand provided they disarm all their followers and give up opium cultivation.

CSO: 4200/598

THAILAND

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE WITH ASEAN--A report from the Department of Business Economics, Ministry of Commerce, states that during the first 10 months of 1983 (January-October 1983), Thailand's trade deficit with the other ASEAN countries totalled 5,599.5 million baht. This can be compared with the same period the previous year when Thailand had a trade surplus with these countries of 2,484.2 million baht. The country with which Thailand has the greatest trade deficit is Malaysia--6,187.7 million baht. This is followed by Singapore, with the trade deficit being 2,261 million baht. Thailand has a trade surplus with the other two countries, with the surplus being 2,131.5 million baht with Indonesia and 717.7 million baht with the Philippines. The same report also discussed the volume of trade between Thailand and the members of the European Economic Community (EEC). It said that during the period January-October 1983, Thailand had a trade surplus of only 2,992.7 million baht with the EEC as compared with the 11,128.2 million baht surplus during the same period the previous year. Of the 10 countries in the EEC, Thailand had a trade surplus with only two: the Netherlands, with whom our trade surplus was 11,849.5 million baht, and Greece, with whom our surplus was 57.7 million baht. Thailand had a trade deficit with the other eight countries. In particular, our trade deficit with West Germany totalled 4,799.3 million baht. This was followed by the 1,603.2 million baht deficit with great Britain. [Text] [Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25 Jan 84 p 11] 11943

SPECIAL BUDGET TO COMBAT PIRACY--The Interior Ministry will seek a special budget from the government to support its plan to combat piracy in the Gulf of Thailand. This was agreed upon at a recent meeting on piracy. Permanent Secretary of Interior Phisan Munlasatsathon said during the meeting that provincial governors, department heads, and the Police Department were instructed to draw up their own antipiracy programs, the amount of budget to be determined by the number of those programs. The Interior Ministry also advised that all units concerned must submit their monthly reports of each agency's progress in suppression of piracy. Mr Phisan added that the Communications Ministry will also be asked to reorganize fishing boat registration to avoid duplication. Registration of fishing boat crew members will also be introduced to make it easier to trace culprits when acts of piracy take place. [Text] [BK091456 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1230 GMT 8 Mar 84]

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN ON CHINA'S THREAT TO SOUTHEAST ASIA

OW130616 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] NHAN DAN on 12 March published a signed article, entitled: "Contribute to Independence, Peace and Friendship," on the results of the Vietnam-Indonesia science seminar. Excerpts of the article follow:

The Vietnam-Indonesia science seminar held in Hanoi on 25 and 26 February 1984 has attracted the attention of the public in Southeast Asia and the whole world. It has attracted public attention because its theme of peace, stability and friendship in Southeast Asian countries.

China had placed Southeast Asian countries under its hegemony from the first century BC and today it still considers Southeast Asia a region in its sphere of influence. The scientists present at the seminar unanimously regarded Chinese expansionist hegemonism as a major threat to Southeast Asia. The imperialist colonialists who occupied Southeast Asia have been expelled, but China, an Asian country borders on Southeast Asia. The conflicts and threats created by China are constant. No other countries have a huge and highly destructive force deeply rooted in Southeast Asian countries, as China does. No other expansionist forces are so deceitful and extremely cruel as China is. Nor will any other expansionist forces go back on their words as China does.

The seminar pointed out that Chinese expansionist hegemonists' threat to the independence of Southeast Asian countries and to peace and stability in the region will become even greater at the end of the 20th century and in the 21st century. People can imagine that when China completes its four modernizations or achieves even one half of them, by then Southeast Asian countries will have to cope with a country twice or even four times stronger than present China which is investing all its economic potential in its expansionist-hegemonist adventures.

The Vietnam-Indonesia science seminar has successfully concluded. It was the first step, but it was an important and good start. It was a victory won by Vietnam and Indonesia. It was a victory of independence, peace and friendship over the imperialist and expansionist forces which are scheming to bring Southeast Asian countries under their sway and make them serve their strategy.

CSO: 4205/49

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INDIA-INDOCHINA SYMPOSIUM HELD IN DELHI

BK081414 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 Mar 84

[Text] A symposium on the these "India and Indochina: Prospects for Cooperation" was recently held in New Delhi to discuss the problems of struggling for peace, disarmament, elimination of tensions in Southeast Asia, and promoting cooperation among nations in the region. Participating in the symposium were numerous well-known social activists, scientists, diplomats, and university professors of India. Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea also sent delegations.

The participants called on the ASEAN countries to settle their differences with the Indochinese countries through negotiations and contribute to creating a climate of peace, good neighborliness, and trust in the region. They warmly welcomed the Indian Government's recognition of the PRK and appealed to the ASEAN countries to follow India's example.

Speaking to newsmen at the closing session of the symposium, Mr Kaul, former secretary of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, highlighted the need to develop multifaceted relations between the Indian people and the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. The stand of India and the Indochinese countries conforms to the current fundamental issues, especially in the struggle for peace and disarmament, and in the building of an equitable economic order in the world. He stressed: The peoples of India and the three Indochinese countries are actively implementing the nonaligned principles and support peace, detente, and the right of each nation to pursue an independent foreign policy in conformity with each country's national interests.

CSO: 4209/199

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VNA VIEWS PROSPECTS FOR INDIA-SRV FRIENDSHIP

OW091537 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 9 Mar 84

["Bright Prospects of Indo-Vietnamese Economic Cooperation"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Mar (VNA)--Marfh 1984 began with a new development in the Indo-Vietnamese economic cooperation. Coincident with the seminar "India-Indochina, Prospects for Cooperation" in New Delhi was the opening in Hanoi of the first Indian trade exhibition.

The exhibition is sponsored by the trade fair authority of India (TFAI) with the participation of 19 government and private corporations and companies.

Though not a big trade exhibition, it is enough to give the Vietnamese public an insight into the rapid development of India's industry and technology over the past few decades, particularly over the years under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

This is apparent in the exhibits of all the 19 owners, from heavy industry equipment of the Cimmco International, the stylish bicycles of the Metro Exporters Private Ltd., the easy-to-handle and high-efficiency weaving and spinning machines of the Lakshmi Machine Works, to the bottles of shampoos and the boxes of paints of the Commar and associates.

Because of the economic similarities between the two countries, Vietnamese visitors are very much interested in India's simple and easily-operated agricultural machinery such as the axial-flow thresher which can thresh grains of different crops, or the fuel-saving insecticide sprayers.

The high Indian craftsmanship finds a vivid expression in the sophisticated ivory-inlaid wood furniture and embroidered vanity boxes and hand-bags.

Indian agriculturists introduce the affluence and diversity of their farm produce through samples of processed food products such as dehydrated vegetables, canned fruits and spices.

Indian textile exporters brought to Hanoi samples of blended, cotton and synthetic fibre fabrics which suit the tropical climate.

The exhibition floor space does not allow the display of products of India's technologies such as shipbuilding, petrochemistry or aeronautics in which India has been making astonishing progress, but visitors can still have a glimpse of it, through a copious graphic show. Most of the graphic materials in this category concern the development and achievement of the Indian railway industry contribution of the Indian Railway Construction Ltd. (IRCON) and the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES).

A comparatively large section is devoted to pictures about major efforts invested by the government of India and by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi personally in the rural development program with a view to improving the rural people's material and cultural life.

Visitors are deeply impressed by a picture taken of the late President Ho Chi Minh and the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru during the former's official visit to India in February 1958, the two eminent leaders who laid the foundation of the lasting friendship and the increasing ties of cooperation between the two countries.

Just as remarked by chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong in the visitors' book, "This exhibition is useful in many ways but above all it contributes to strengthening the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries." This view was shared by K.N. Modawal, director of the exhibition, in an interview with our correspondent. He said he was glad at the Vietnamese interest in the exhibits [words indistinct] as well as at the development of the Indo-Vietnamese relations. He expressed the hope that the economic cooperation between the two countries would be diversified and intensified to match the development of the political and cultural ties.

CSO: 4200/596

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HANOI ANALYZES PRC POLICY IN THIRD WORLD

BK131141 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Article by station editor: "Beijing and the Third World"]

[Text] In 1956, at the Bandung Conference in Indonesia, the Chinese leaders sought every means to assume leadership over the Afro-Asian countries or, in other words, the countries of the Third World, with the signing of the declaration on the five principles of peaceful coexistence. After that, Beijing often emphasized that the Afro-Asian and Latin American countries were the world's major revolutionary forces.

According to the U.S. news agency AP on 23 November 1983, the amount of Beijing's aid to the Third World countries during the period from the Bandung Conference to the early 1970's was estimated at over \$2 billion. People still remember the visit of a high-level Chinese party and government delegation led by late Premier Zhou Enlai to many African countries in late 1963 and early 1964. Together with this visit, Beijing scattered its baits of economic and technical aid to the African countries, such as helping Tanzania and Mozambique build railroads and building a sports complex for Morocco, a sugar mill for Senegal, and a number of medical and cultural projects for other African countries. During these years, Beijing also invited many African leaders to visit China.

Then, also according to the U.S. news agency AP on 23 November 1983, Beijing's aid to the Third World began to decrease noticeably since 1976. As pointed out by foreign observers, this was not because Beijing had encountered difficulties as a result of the cultural revolution, but because China had strengthened cooperation and established contacts with the Western European countries.

Beijing's act of betrayal against Vietnam--characterized by the signing of the Sino-U.S. joint communique in Shanghai in 1972 and the destruction of the Kampuchean people from 1975 to late 1978 and climaxed by the sending of 600,000 troops to invade Vietnam--caused indignation among the Third World countries and put them on the alert. The magazine ASIA-AFRICA on 19 March 1979 noted that not one of the Third World countries, including those which had earlier supported the Beijing authorities, dared to defend China.

Faced with this situation, Beijing could not help seeking all means to win back the Third world countries and use them as political pawns with the aim

of materializing the national policy of great Han Expansionism and hegemonism. It is for this reason that, in late 1982 and early 1983, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang was compelled to tour 11 African countries. Earlier, Deng Ziaoping and Zhao Ziyang also visited countries in Southeast Asia.

Commenting on the sugar-coated words and economic and technical aid offers that were brought to those African countries during Zhao Ziyang's visit, the U.S. news agency AP on 23 November 1983 said: China has paid ever greater attention to Africa and considered this continent as the area to check the influence of the Soviet Union while affirming its role as leader of the Third World.

It is with this same objective that Li Xiannian, PRC president, is now visiting a number of Southwest Asian countries--Pakistan, Nepal, Jordan, and Turkey. Li himself has not concealed Beijing's designs in this visit. The BBC on 6 March reported that immediately after his arrival in Islamabad, the first leg of his four-nation tour, Li Xiannian incited the host country to oppose the Soviet Union and Vietnam by distorting the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. Naturally, Li has not forgotten to deceive the general public about China's threat to the Indochinese countries, especially China's efforts to revive the disguised Khmer Rouge genocidal clique and China's criminal hands in the present campaign against the Afghan revolution.

While Li was wooing these Third World countries, Beijing propaganda organs went on to hail China's so-called cooperation with and assistance to all countries of the Third World. In an issue in early March, the Chinese paper KWANG MING RIBAO disclosed that China has signed nearly 1,000 contracts for construction projects or service cooperation with 4 countries and regions of the Third World and that this country will continue to give aid to the 64 Third World countries. Another Chinese paper, RENMIN RIBAO, also reported that China has sent a delegation of the Chinese Federation of Trade Unions led by (Yeh Zhifu) to visit Egypt, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Senegal, and Algeria.

The Third World countries cannot forget that, in collusion with the U.S. imperialists, South Africa, Israel, and other reactionary forces in certain Third World countries--such as Chile and Zaire--and the countries in the Middle East, Asia, and other parts of the world, China has carried out a series of activities to oppose the movement for national liberation and the world revolutionary movement.

Public opinion has long questioned whether Beijing wants to seek closer relations with Third World countries because of common interests or because it hopes to drive these countries into its orbit to serve its expansionist policy.

CSO: 4209/199

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INDOCHINESE MEKONG CONFERENCE CLOSES

OW091635 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Mar (VNA)--The two delegations of the national Mekong committees of Vietnam and Laos to the seventh conference of the Indochinese national Mekong committees left Phnom Penh for home Thursday.

Before their departure, the two delegations were received by Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Kampuchea, in Phnom Penh Wednesday.

At the reception, Chan Si praised the cooperation between the three Indochinese countries as an important factor for the economic development of each country. He said that no enemy, however wicked, could break the solidarity and cooperation between the Indochinese countries.

A press communique was released in Phnom Penh Thursday at the end of the four-day conference.

The communique says among other things:

"The conference has reviewed the work and achievements in the past years in the cooperation between the concerned countries in the survey and exploitation of the resources of the Mekong River.

"The three delegations have exchanged views on the improvement of navigation and on the development of the hydroelectric potential as well as on the elaboration of the cooperation program for 1986-80.[as printed]

"For this purpose, the conference deems it necessary to hold seminars on elaborating projects for the management of the Mekong River and its tributaries in the three Indochinese countries.

"The three delegations reiterated the imperative necessity of the People's Republic of Kampuchea's presence in the interim Mekong committee and pointed out that without the PRK's participation the exploitation of the lower reaches of the Mekong River could not be carried rationally and effectively."

"The three delegations agreed to hold the eighth conference in Hanoi in October.

"The Vietnamese and Lao delegations thanked the Kampuchean national Mekong Committee for the warm fraternal welcome given them and for the excellent preparation for the conference."

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INDIAN TRADE OFFICIAL SPEAKS TO HANOI PRESS

OW150011 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Hanoi, 14 Mar (VNA)--A media conference was held in Hanoi today by K.V. Modawal, director of Indian trade exhibition in Vietnam, and Nguyen Tam, secretary general of the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to wind up the two-week Indian trade exhibition.

Speaking at the conference, Mr Modawal said he was very pleased and honoured to have received among other visitors to the exhibition chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong and other Vietnamese government leaders.

He said the first Indian trade exhibition in Vietnam had been crowned with success and expressed the hope that the friendly relations and fraternal cooperation, especially in trade, between India and Vietnam would be constantly developed.

Answering questions put to him by media people, Mr Modawal said that representatives of many trade agencies of India and Vietnam had met on this occasion to discuss the widening on trade between the two countries in the spirit of friendship and mutual benefit.

On this occasion, two get-togethers were organized in Hanoi by Hoang Trong Dai, president of the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indian Ambassador Kuldip Shadap.

Speaking at the get-together he hosted, Hoang Trong Dai said he rejoiced at the successful conclusion of India's first trade show in Vietnam.

Ambassador Kuldip Shadap thanked the Vietnamese Government and Chamber of Commerce and Industry for having created all favourable conditions for the holding of the exhibition.

CSO: 4200/596

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

ROYAL COMMISSION VISITS FORMER BASE--The Royal Commission investigating the use of chemical defoliants in Vietnam has briefly visited the former Australian military base at Nui Dat and recreation center at Vung Tau. It was the first time during its visit to Vietnam that the commission had been able to see at first hand the area where Australian troops fought during the Vietnam war. The Royal Commission will return to Australia tomorrow to begin a series of informal sessions later this month. [Text] [BK150647 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 15 Mar 84]

DIOXIN LEVELS STUDY--Australia has asked Vietnam for permission to send its own experts to study the level of the chemical dioxin in Vietnamese soil. The request was made by an Australian royal commission which is visiting Vietnam to assess the effects of chemical defoliants used by American and Australian forces during the Vietnam war. The commission has heard evidence from a Vietnamese scientist that dioxin traces had been found deep in the mud of mangrove swamps. The scientist said further studies were needed to find out the level of dioxin in Vietnam's environment. Dioxin is a poisonous by-product in the manufacture of 245-T, the active ingredient in the defoliant Agent Orange. [Text] [BK130230 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 13 Mar 84]

GDR CULTURAL DELEGATION--Hanoi, 11 Mar (VNA)--A delegation of the cultural commission of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany led by F. Helsen, deputy chief of the commission, recently visited Vietnam at the invitation of the culture and arts commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. During its stay, the delegation paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's home and office here. It called at the office of the Vietnam Writers' Association and several cultural establishments in Hanoi, Ha Son Binh Province and Ho Chi Minh city. On 9 March, the GDR guests were cordially received by Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPV Central Committee. Dr Hermann Schwiesau, GDR ambassador to Vietnam, was also present at the reception. The delegation left here for home yesterday. [Text] [OW111641 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 11 Mar 84]

ARTISTS RECEIVE GDR AWARDS--Hanoi, 11 Mar (VNA)--F. Heluen, deputy chief of the cultural commission of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and Dr Hermann Schwiesau, GDR ambassador to Vietnam recently handed certificates and badges of correspondent membership of the GDR Academy of Arts over to Tran Van Can, a painter, and Xuan Dieu, a poet and literary critic, of Vietnam. Also present at the hand-over ceremony held at the GDR Embassy here were Ha Xuan Truong and Tran Hoan, respectively chief and deputy chief of the Culture and Arts Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. [Text] [OW111637 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 11 Mar 84]

PRC AID TO POL POT--Whereas public opinion in some Southeast Asian countries and the progressive world public has been increasingly aware of the good will of the three Indochinese countries, the Chinese authorities and international reactionary forces are stepping up their efforts to distort the true situation in the three Indochinese countries; more blatantly, they are giving further aid to the Pol Pot remnants in order to oppose and undermine the Kampuchean revolution. On 6 March Li Xiannian, top leader of the Chinese state, began his trip to Pakistan, the first leg of his four-nation tour of Pakistan, Jordan, Turkey, and Nepal, with a scheme to undermine peace and hinder and wreck stability in Southeast Asia. The Chinese reactionaries have also intensified their collusion with the United States and Japan and furthered their expansionist-hegemonist schemes. However, the progressive world public is increasingly aware of the true colors of the Chinese reactionaries, especially their scheme of propping up the now-defunct Pol Pot regime, which has been condemned worldwide. Whatever metamorphosis the Chinese reactionaries and the forces that follow them are trying to foist upon the Khmer Rouge, and whatever name they are given, the Khmer Rouge remains a genocidal clique which massacred more than 3 million Kampucheans. [From the "Review of Last Week's Significant World Events"] [Text] [OW131145 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Mar 84]

CSO: 4209/199

AGRICULTURE

MARINE PRODUCT OUTPUT INCREASES IN HAU GIANG, PROBLEMS REMAIN

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Jan 84 p 2

[Being the Collective Masters of Labor and Arable Land column by Nguyen Minh Tong, director of the Hau Giang Marine Products Service: "In Hau Giang Province, Marine Products Are the Second Most Important Strength: During the Past 3 Years, Nearly 71,000 Tons of Shrimp and Fish Have Been Harvested; in 1983, Exports Equalled 350 Percent of the Plan Quota"]

[Text] A Significant Turning Point

For a time, especially during the several years immediately following the transfer of the Con Dao fishing fleet to the Vung Tau-Con Dao special zone, the output of the Hau Giang marine products sector declined seriously. During that time, not one plan norm was met. The cadres and workers of the sector became somewhat pessimistic. Becoming increasingly concerned about this situation, the Hau Giang Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee have done everything possible to assist and guide the sector in all areas of production in order to gradually strengthen and develop it because, as maintained by the province, marine products are the second most important economic strength of Hau Giang. On the other hand, the Ministry of Marine Products and the Marine Products Export Corporation have worked hard to create favorable conditions for the sector to move forward and complete its task.

Beginning in 1981, the Hau Giang marine products sector re-examined its forces, its personnel as well as its organizational apparatus and material-technical bases, redefined the central task of the sector and gradually corrected its weaknesses and deficiencies, using the momentum gained to create a position from which to develop the sector in the correct direction. During the 3 years since then, especially in 1983, the sector has recorded a number of outstanding achievements and met and exceeded the norms of the state plan and those assigned by the province.

The total output of marine products during the past 3 years reached nearly 71,000 tons, which included 28,000 tons of ocean shrimp and fish. The ocean shrimp catch reached 9,420 tons, a 16 percent increase compared to the 5 preceding years. The output of field shrimp and river shrimp amounted to 8,339 tons, 2.3 times more than the output from 1976 to 1980.

During the past 3 years, the sector has procured more than 26,000 tons of marine products, 1.7 times more than required under the plan for the previous 5 years; the products procured included 11,000 tons of shrimp of various kinds, 180 percent of the 1976-1980 plan quota, and nearly 3,000 tons of crayfish.

The output of frozen shrimp and dried shrimp has increased markedly, from 124.5 tons in 1981 to 408 tons in 1982 and more than 600 tons last year, 2.7 times more than required under the state quota. Deserving of attention is that grade 1 and grade 2 frozen shrimp have accounted for 85 percent of output. The sector has also procured and processed 500 tons of dried shrimp, more than seven times the amount required under the assigned plan, 228 tons of which have been exported. In addition, the sector has produced 30 tons of frozen fish and 3.6 tons of fish fins and bladders outside its plan.

In 1983, the value of the sector's exports, which consisted primarily of shrimp, equalled 350 percent of the state plan, an 8.2 fold increase compared to the first year of this year's 5-year plan.

The assigned norms on the delivery of finished export products and raw materials to the central level through the Marine Products Export Corporation and to the various places within Ho Chi Minh City were properly met. To the Hau Giang marine products sector, the past 3 years were 3 years of working hard in production while making every effort to build the material-technical potentials of the sector, transform the old production relations, reorganize production and develop many more capabilities for harvesting and cultivating marine products in all districts.

In 1983 alone, we built 13 new shrimp boats and manufactured more than 200 bottom nets, thereby bringing the total number of ships and boats at sea to 346. The procurement system for the various marine products has been operating at a brisk pace. Each district has established a specialized organization concerned with the harvesting, cultivation and procurement of marine products, especially the cultivation of shrimp. In addition to the two districts of Long Phu and Vinh Chau, which have received assistance from the Marine Products Service in building their fishing fleets, all other districts have adopted policies on promoting the harvesting and procurement of marine products within rivers and zoning areas for the cultivation of shrimp and fish. Last year, Ke Sach and Chau Thanh Districts, which did not manage their shrimp well during the several preceding years, made much progress and actively contributed to the overall achievement recorded by the province.

The Soc Trang Frozen Shrimp Enterprise, which is the leading unit of the Hau Giang Marine Products Sector, has taken positive steps to improve its management and implemented product contracts with workers, as a result of which the productivity of shrimp processing has rapidly increased. The enterprise has constructed an additional cold storage facility. The Ice Enterprise has served harvesting and processing needs better with each passing day.

The supplying of state-operated fleets and two-way trade between the state and collectives and fishermen have been timely and effective. The Marine Products

Export Corporation of the Ministry of Marine Products has provided practical and rather rapid assistance in this area.

The Marine Products Service has fully concerned itself with the transformation of the old production relations on the basis of making the state-operated system a stronger one, considering this to be the factor of decisive importance. Long Phu and Vinh Chau Districts have their own procurement corporations; the other districts and towns have procurement networks that are coordinated with the district commerce sector. During the past 3 years, 31 percent of the equipment used to harvest marine products and 61 percent of the labor force of the ocean fishing industry have been brought within collective production.

Due to the achievements described above, the Hau Giang marine products sector made increasingly large contributions to the budget. In 1983, budget contributions originating in profits, price differences and basic depreciation increased 36 times compared to 1981.

In summary, during the first 3 years of the 1981-1985 state plan, Hau Giang completed virtually every norm of the state plan. In some areas, such as the procurement and delivery of products, the processing of frozen shrimp and dried shrimp and exportation, we almost completed the norms of the 5-year plan.

The movement to cultivate shrimp, manage shrimp well and sell shrimp to the state for exportation is developing widely in all districts. The cultivation of shrimp has increased markedly, from 5,100 hectares of salt water, brackish water and fields in 1981 to 7,507 hectares in 1983.

Thus, despite limited fuel, harvesting equipment and capital, the Hau Giang marine products sector still recorded initial achievements, achievements that amount to a significant turning point.

Many Appropriate Policies

To begin with, it must be stated that since the decline in production, the Hau Giang Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee have increasingly realized that marine products are the second most important economic strength of the province and the most important source of exports at this time. As a result, the guidance provided has gradually become increasingly specific, from guidelines and tasks to forms of organization and stages of development, from the organization of sector cadres to the strengthening of cost accounting management, from the division of labor and management responsibilities to the policy regarding commendations and awards. Several new measures in the nature of economic incentives have emerged and been successfully applied. Marine product activities, from harvesting, cultivation, procurement and processing to exportation, have been placed within one center for which the sector is responsible. In order to avoid competition in procurement and sales and avoid arbitrary price increases, no other agency is permitted to "stir up the water" around each shrimp and fish that is to be procured by the sector. The districts organize procurement, manage fishermen and concern themselves with occupational matters; the relations between the districts and the sector are

fair, two-way contract relations. Since 1982, the new price policy, a policy which provides for suitable prices, has insured that all three interests are satisfied; all districts that participate in export activities have the right to use foreign currency in accordance with the requirements of production and daily life within the district, etc. It can be said that the guidance provided by the party together with increasingly suitable policies are the foremost reasons why the marine products sector has been able to overcome many seemingly insurmountable difficulties.

As a result of this correct guidance, an effective way of working has emerged and a spirit of surmounting difficulties through self-reliance has become increasingly evident in leadership activities and throughout the marine products sector.

The sector has established shrimp as its "leading product," made the exportation of frozen shrimp its most important task and, on this basis, balanced its plan and submitted profits and made contributions to the state.

The various elements of the sector's production line have been efficiently reorganized. The Procurement Corporation, the Ice Enterprise and the Soc Trang Frozen Shrimp Processing Enterprise have been merged into one corporation in order to facilitate cost accounting, facilitate production management and enable these units to assist one another in their business and production. At places where these processes have been separated from one another, success has not been achieved.

Facing many difficulties with money, goods for use in two-way trade, fuel, fishing gear and so forth, the Hau Giang marine products sector has implemented the following guideline: seeking assistance and investments from the state while endeavoring to be self-sufficient and establishing balance on its own in a planned and well led manner. Our most important task, exporting marine products, must be supported through the combined efforts of all sectors and districts. This is one of the most important lessons learned by the sector over the past 3 years.

Our sector still faces many difficulties: its material-technical bases are still small and piecemeal in nature; the new value being created by the sector is still low (approximately 20 percent); prices are continuing to fluctuate; the supply of goods available for two-way trade is small and not under our control; private production relations are still widespread; the management and specialized skills of cadres do not meet the requirements of the new task.

All of these difficulties face the sector with the need to make extraordinary efforts, to work and study at the same time, to produce and gradually summarize the experiences that have been gained in order to further improve itself so that it can complete its immediate task and look ahead to 1990.

Nevertheless, with the experiences gained in the recent past and its desire to move forward through its own efforts, our sector will surely produce an output of 27,000 tons this year, which will include 600 tons of frozen shrimp. These are figures that lie within our grasp.

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CSO: 4209/185

AGRICULTURE

BAC THAI PROVINCE REPORTS ECONOMIC TARGETS FOR 1984

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Party Building column by Nguyen Anh Binh: "Bac Thai Develops a Full-Scale Agriculture and Establishes an Industrial-Agricultural-Forestry Economic Structure"]

[Text] In keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 5th Party Plenum, the Bac Thai Provincial Party Committee conducted a thorough review and deepened its understanding of the lines and viewpoints of the party concerning socialist construction, upholding the right of collective ownership of the working people and making combined use of all available strengths in the development of the potentials that lie in labor, arable land and existing material-technical bases. It has corrected the less than full understanding it once had concerning the development of a full-scale agriculture, especially with regard to the strength that lies in industrial crops in the midlands and mountains; establishing broader economic ties and joint businesses with a view toward increasing the province's exports so that additional goods can be imported; attaching appropriate importance to the development of industrial production, especially the consumer goods industry and the processing industry in order to keep pace with the development of agriculture; and restoring the new order to distribution-circulation on the basic level and within the scope of the districts and province in order to put the vast majority of goods and money under the control of the state, strengthen and develop the socialist commerce system, strengthen market management and so forth.

On the basis of the lessons and experiences learned and gained in 1983 and under the light of the basic viewpoint set forth in the resolution of the 5th Party Plenum, the Bac Thai Provincial Party Committee established the guidelines and tasks for the 2 years 1984-1985 and adopted various measures designed to meet the socio-economic targets set forth by the 5th Congress of the Party and the provincial party organization congress.

Bac Thai has established as its most important task continuing to increase the production and mobilization of grain in an attempt to produce 230,000 tons in 1984, a 17 percent increase over 1983, while mobilizing and procuring 350,000 tons so that the amount of grain supplied by the central level to the province can be gradually reduced. This will be done primarily by promoting the

intensive cultivation of grain crops on the basis of utilizing the combined strengths of agriculture, industry, forestry and export activities and establishing ties with the scientific-technical facilities within the area. Concerted investments will be made in intensive cultivation to insure that the high yield rice growing area, which accounts for one-third of the province's farmland, produces one-half of the province's total paddy output. As regards subsidiary food crops, the first step will be to increase the amount of area under cultivation and invest in the intensive cultivation of corn. Policies have been adopted to provide incentive to those areas in the northern districts that have the habit of growing corn, such as being able to fulfill food product and pork obligations by means of corn converted at an appropriate ratio (at places where it is difficult to transport hogs) and shipping this corn into the city in order to expand hog production and increase the size of hog herds. We have prepared good conditions and material bases to insure increased grain yields and output and have strengthened the level I and level II seed facilities. The quantity of supplies and chemical fertilizer that has been prepared is twice as large as in 1983. The province has accelerated the movement to raise livestock, produce green manure and increase the quantity of organic fertilizer to insure higher crop yields.

The production of livestock and poultry has been promoted in all three sectors: the state-operated sector, the collective sector and the household sector. We have expanded the economic ties and joint businesses between state-operated livestock installations and cooperatives, collectives of workers and cadres at agencies, enterprises, army units and schools and households in order to quickly apply technological advances in livestock production and create the conditions needed to firmly control product output, thereby insuring that food needs within the area are met and correcting the problem of food products being handled by many intermediaries on their way from production installations to markets, which resulted in much waste and loss. In 1984, norms call for the total hog herd to be increased to 260,000 hogs and for the mobilization under obligations and the procurement of 3,000 tons of pork, live weight, a 700 ton increase over 1983, in an effort to balance food supply and demand within the province by 1985.

We will steadily develop the production of special product, perennial industrial crops of the locality, such as tea, t'ung trees and so forth while focusing our efforts on making strong investments in the production of annual industrial crops and developing their production at a rapid rate in order to create sources of export goods. Of these crops, peanuts have assumed a position of foremost importance in the plan for 1984-1985, a plan which doubles the amount of area under peanut cultivation and will increase peanut exports three-fold compared to 1983. The development of peanut production also has the objective of creating large sources of green manure and export goods so that we can import agricultural supplies for the intensive cultivation of grain.

In the 2 years 1984 and 1985, Bac Thai Province will endeavor to complete the assignment of land and forests to cooperatives and cooperative members for management, develop forest land and barren hills in accordance with the locality's economic development planning and establish an industrial-agricultural-forestry economic structure, with importance attached to planting

and harvesting those crops that provide raw material for paper production, mine beams, wood for building materials, export goods and civilian goods, in an effort to complete the work of covering barren hills with vegetation by 1990.

We will develop our local industry and handicraft trades, with attention to the processing industry and the agricultural support industry. We will gradually establish the division of management responsibilities, put several production installations under district management and build districts that have an agro-forestry-industrial or forestry-agricultural-industrial economic structure. At the start of 1984, the province put two tea processing enterprises under the management of two districts that have specialized tea farming areas, Dai Tu and Dinh Hoa. Several other districts have been given the responsibility of managing agricultural and forestry product processing plants and installations that produce building materials, consumer goods and hand tools.

The provincial party committee has put each of its members in charge of one key economic sector. The provincial people's committee has studied and formulated specific policies regarding each crop and species of livestock, the purpose of which is to provide incentive for production on the basis of properly combining the three interests, firmly upholding the principle of democratic centralism and insuring the full implementation of the state plan.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

PROVINCES LAUDED FOR GRAIN SUCCESSES--The chairman of the Council of Ministers has recently sent a message warmly commending the cadres and people of Minh Hai, Kien Giang, and Long An Provinces for their achievements in grain procurement and deliveries in February. In February, Minh Hai fulfilled its grain delivery plan by 100 percent. Kien Giang overfulfilled its grain procurement plan by 35 percent, collecting 47,000 metric tons more than it did in the same period last year and Long An overfulfilled its grain procurement plan by 20 percent. The chairman of the Council of Ministers has also sent warm congratulatory messages to the cadres and workers of the Saigon, Can Tho, and Tra Noc Ports, the United Mekong River Transportation Enterprises, the Railway Transportation Corporation No 5, the Ho Chi Minh City Communications and Transportation Service, the Joint State-Private Automobile Transportation Enterprise No 1, the Joint State-Private Automobile Transportation Enterprise No 2, the Saigon Maritime Transportation Corporation of the Ho Chi Minh City Communications and Transportation Service, the Long An Provincial Communications and Transportation Service, the Maritime Transportation Agency Corporation No 3, the VOSCO Maritime Transportation Corporation, the SOVOSCO Maritime Transportation Corporation, and the (Vung Sau) Port in Cuu Long Province. All these units have made numerous efforts in grain transportation in February. The chairman of the Council of Ministers hoped that the cadres, people, and workers of these provinces and units will actively strive for even better results in the coming days. [Text] [BK140845 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Mar 84]

HO CHI MINH CITY GRAIN--The Ho Chi Minh City Agriculture Service has reported: in 1983, the area under cultivation, yield and output of all the city's main crops increased. Last year, more than 83,000 hectares of grain were raised (including more than 77,000 hectares of rice) and grain output reached 246,000 tons (nearly 11,000 tons more than in 1982). Estimated rice yield was 3 tons of paddy per hectare, a 160 kilogram per hectare increase over 1982. More than 230,000 tons of vegetables and beans were produced (an increase of 11,000 tons). The buffalo herd increased in size to nearly 34,000 head (an increase of 2,000 head). The cattle herd exceeded 50,000 head (an increase of 5,000 head). The hog herd exceeded 200,000 hogs (an increase of 10,000). Practically all state farms, forestry sites, corporations and enterprises under the Agriculture Service completed their plans for 1983. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Jan 84 p 2] 7809

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